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Japan

North-South Korean Reconciliation Accord Hailed

OW1312025091 Tokyo KYODO in English 0234 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe hailed the signing Friday of a reconciliation and nonaggression agreement by the prime ministers of North and South Korea.

"This is an epoch-making development in North-South Korean dialogue," Watanabe told reporters after Friday's cabinet meeting, adding "It will help in alleviating tensions and we welcome and praise it highly."

Prime Ministers Chong Won-sik of South Korea and Yon Hyong-muk of North Korea, meeting in Seoul for the fifth round of high-level talks Friday, signed the breakthrough pact that could provide the basis for the end of four decades of hostility on the divided peninsula.

Watanabe said the agreement would also be a "plus" in Japan's ongoing negotiations with Pyongyang to establish full diplomatic ties.

He added, however, that Japan was most concerned about North Korea's suspected nuclear development program and was not sure if Friday's agreement included mention of nuclear weapons.

Japan, along with the United States and South Korea, is urging Pyongyang to sign the international nuclear inspections accord of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and allow IAEA inspection of its nuclear facilities.

Joint-EC Consultations Discuss DPRK, Burma

OW1312114191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1129 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—Japanese and European Community (EC) officials agreed Friday to closely coordinate their efforts aimed at convincing North Korea to accept international inspections of its nuclear facilities, Foreign Ministry officials said.

Officials said the two sides also agreed on the need to strengthen the effectiveness of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the organization responsible for conducting such inspections.

The agreements came in the course of Japan-EC political consultations, which have been held twice a year since 1985 with the aim of strengthening bilateral political dialogue.

The Japanese delegation was headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Kunihiko Saito, while the EC side was led by Van Walsum, director of political affairs in the Foreign Ministry of the Netherlands, which currently holds the EC Presidency.

Officials said the two sides expressed satisfaction at their success in jointly sponsoring a recently passed United Nations resolution calling for increased transparency of international arms transfers.

Officials said they shared the view that the potential for Japan-EC oooperation should also be exploited for efforts to prevent the proliferation of nuclear and chemical weapons.

Officials said the two sides discussed the difficulties now being faced on how to go about extending aid to the Soviet Union under the current political circumstances there, such as which authorities to consult with and how and where aid should be channeled.

In response to an inquiry from the EC delegation, officials said Japan explained its policy of continuing to link the question of aid to the Soviet Union with progress in resolving a dispute with Moscow over four Soviet-occupied islands seized from Japan by the Red Army at the end of World War II.

Officials said the two sides shared the view that the human rights situation and lack of democracy in Myanmar [Burma] should be rectified.

But they said there was a divergence of opinion on the best way of getting the military junta in power there to honor the results of the May 1990 general elections and transfer power to the opposition.

While Japan stressed the belief that working for change through dialogue with the Myanmar authorities would be most effective, the EC side called for political pressure and the adoption of coercive economic measures.

Officials said the EC side was told Japan wants to encourage China to relax certain restrictive measures in the political realm by giving that government various forms of advice and helping it promote economic reforms.

Other EC officials attending included Caimoto Duarte, deputy political director of the Foreign Ministry of Portugal, the next EC country to assume the presidency, and J. Mischo, deputy director general of political affairs of the Foreign Ministry of Luxembourg, the last country to occupy the office.

Gunter Burghardt, political director for the EC Commission, was also in attendance.

Reaction to GATT Farm Tariffication Proposal

Secretary, Ministers Reiterate 'Opposition'

OW1312044791 Tokyo KYODO in English 0236 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—Japan reiterated its opposition to switching its virtual ban on rice imports to tariffs following a report Friday that the head of the organization sponsoring global trade talks had proposed tariffication in trade talks.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato told a regularly scheduled news conference that the reported proposal by Arthur Dunkel, director general of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT,) was "basically the same" as one Tokyo rejected last month.

"There is no change in our government's negotiating position," Kato said.

The chief government spokesman also said he believed U.S. and European negotiators remain deadlocked over farm trade liberalization.

Dunkel's proposal calls for switching all farm import restrictions to tariffs, precluding the possibility of Japan retaining its virtual ban on rice imports, according to conference sources in Geneva.

Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe said the time has come for all GATT participating nations to make political decisions or risk the failure of the current round of global trade talks.

The reported proposal "is not a rough one at all but the final one," he told reporters, indicating Japan cannot avoid making a decision.

But Farm Minister Masami Tanabu said separately there is no proposal to which all GATT members can agree.

It will take time to bring all the members to make concessions on the reported proposal, Tanabu told reporters, suggesting the Uruguay round of trade talks might not meet the deadline of early next year urged by Dunkel.

Tanabu said he could not estimate the impact of the reported inclusion in Dunkel's proposal of "nontrade" interests in the farm issue, which Japan has been pushing in its stance of protecting the domestic rice market.

Possible 'Loophole' Noted

OW1312131391 Tokyo KYODO in English 1258 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 (KYODO)—Japan reacted cautiously Friday to a draft agreement on agricultural trade rules put forward by the head of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) that call for the conversion of import barriers to tariffs.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato said while the document refers to "food security," a concept Japan cites as the reason for its ban on rice imports, it is too early to interpret the text as endorsing the ban.

Kato told a press conference the document does not mention food security as "an agreed rule," but as "a general concept," adding the words do not necessarily provide a loophole for Japan.

The draft paper, presented Thursday by GATT Director General Arthur Dunkel, says reductions in agricultural support and protection should be made in an equitable way, "having regard to nontrade concerns, including food security."

The paper is part of a draft agreement on trade in agriculture and 14 other sectors Dunkel is slated to present December 20 to wrap up five years of the Uruguay Round of GATT-sponsored trade negotiations.

A top official at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry said Dunkel's draft will be close to a final agreement on new trade rules.

But the official said it is a toss-up whether agreement can be reached when GATT convenes its policy-steering trade negotiations committee on January 13.

Trade Minister on Retaining Copper Ore Tariffs

OW1312061291 Tokyo KYODO in English 0458 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—Trade Minister Kozo Watanabe told Japan's mining industry Friday it would be "difficult" to resist mounting foreign pressure to scrap all tariffs on copper ore imports.

"We will study how to act on the problem, but the situation is quite difficult," Watanabe told a breakfast meeting of officials of the Japan Mining Industry Association.

The industry officials pleaded for the government to maintain tariff levels, calling the issue "a grave matter influencing the future of the industry."

At the heart of the dispute over nonferrous metal trade is a request by the United States and the European Community (EC) in the current Uruguay round of global trade talks that Japan's effective 4 percent tariffs on copper ore imports be scrapped to improve foreign access to the Japanese market.

Panel Urges Measures To Correct Trade Imbalance

OW1312045591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0348 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—Japan's attempts to correct its trade imbalance with other nations have brought some positive results in the past few years, but further efforts are necessary to curb the resurging surplus, an economic advisory panel said Friday.

In its report to the government, the Economic Policy Council, a blue-ribbon advisory council to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, reviewed and evaluated the current five-year economic plan, set in May 1988.

Having taken office in early November, Miyazawa is expected to set up a new medium-term economic plan even though the current plan is not completed. The council's report is to provide the groundwork for a new plan.

The council said the primary goal of the current plan—boosting domestic demand in order to reduce the nation's huge trade surplus with world trade partners—has generally been achieved.

Japan's economy grew by an average 5.3 percent each year after the five-year economic plan was introduced, encouraged by strong domestic economy. The growth far exceeded the planned target of 3.75 percent per annum.

With the sound economic growth, the ratio of the nation's current account surplus to the Gross National Product peaked at 4.4 percent in fiscal 1986, falling to 3.3 percent in fiscal 1987, 2.6 percent in fiscal 1988, 1.9 percent in fiscal 1989, and 1.1 percent in fiscal 1990.

There were, however, "temporary" factors helping the reduction, the report noted, such as the yen's appreciation against the dollar after the 1985 Plaza accord, the large financial contribution in fiscal 1990 to the allied forces in the Persian Gulf war, and higher oil prices before and during the war.

The recent years of the "bubble" economy phenomenon, or asset inflation that allowed asset-rich people to go on a buying spree, also helped reduce the trade surplus by boosting imports, the council said.

However, the surplus began resurging after the bubble burst and domestic demand lost its steam, while exports have been boosted by strong demand in such countries as Germany and Southeast Asian nations, it said.

The council said cutting the trade surplus is the most urgent issue.

The current five-year plan also set two more major issues to be solved—reducing excessive concentration in the Tokyo metropolitan area by structural adjustment of industries and development of regional economies, and realizing a truly affluent society reflected by an improvement in the quality of life.

The council said there has been little reduction in the concentration in Tokyo, although the population inflow to the area has declined. Further strategic promotion of large-scale economic development is necessary, it urged.

On creating a truly affluent society, the council noted some improvements. It said the nation's unemployment rate came down to 2.1 percent in fiscal 1990 from 2.8 percent in fiscal 1987, annual working hours were shortened to 2,044 hours by fiscal 1990 from 2,120 in 1987—though they would not come down to the target of 2,000 hours by fiscal 1992.

Prices remained relatively stable during the past few years of rapid economic growth, it said.

However, it said land and asset prices are still at relatively high levels, although not rising any more, and the gap between domestic and overseas prices has not been narrowed enough.

The council addressed new issues it said Japan should tackle, as the world is rapidly changing politically and economically.

On the international front, those include cooperation in such areas as creation of a "new world order," free trade, and environmental protection.

On the domestic level, the panel urged preparations to cope with Japan's rapidly aging society, creation of a more transparent business environment, and energy conservation measures.

Commission Poised To End Some Price Fixing

OW1212143591 Tokyo KYODO in English 1335 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Legal floor-price fixing runs counter to consumer interests as it serves as an impediment to fair competition, the Fair Trade Commission said in a report Thursday, paving the way for eliminating the price-fixing system. Commission officials said the report provides them with a good reason to delist cosmetics, household medical goods, and recorded compact discs from goods eligible for price fixing allowed as an exemption from the Antimonopoly Law.

The report said that a majority of consumers polled favors lifting the price-fixing system and that prices of cosmetics, household medical goods, and recorded compact discs are maintained at high levels due to lack of competition. The officials said they plan to conduct hearings with interested parties on whether to make these three goods subject to free competition before making a final decision as early as next January.

The Antimonopoly Law allows setting a floor price for 50 designated cosmetics and household medical products and some other goods such as compact discs in order to protect small manufacturers and retailers from excessive competition. But the report noted that there have been few price reductions on cosmetics and household medical goods for more than 10 years as a handful of big companies has maintained a monopoly in the underlying markets.

The report follows recommedations made earlier by a study group attached to the commission that the legal price fixing-system be eliminated so that consumer interests be given greater weight when allowing cartel-like practices.

Diet Approves Y266 Billion Supplementary Budget

OW1312105291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1023 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—The Diet approved Friday a supplementary budget of 266 billion yen for the current fiscal year, incorporating funds for areas that have suffered damage from natural disasters and wage hikes for public-sector workers.

The House of Councillors voted to enact the bill which had earlier cleared the House of Representatives.

Members of the Liberal Democratic Party, Social Democratic Party, Komeito, Rengo Sangiin and Democratic Socialist Party voted for the budget.

In the supplementary budget, the Finance Ministry revised the tax revenue projection for fiscal 1991, ending in March, downward by 2,782 billion yen.

The budget includes 608.4 billion yen in aid to disaster-stricken areas and 326.7 billion yen for wage hikes for public workers.

The Finance Ministry will issue 1,387 billion yen of project bonds and use all of the 998.3 billion yen of surplus funds in the fiscal 1990 budget in order to meet the additional budgetary demands from falling tax revenues, officials said.

International Aid Budget Set at Y1.3 Trillion

OW1312123691 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—Japan's fiscal 1992 budget for international aid will amount to a total of 1.3 trillion yen, the secretary general of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) said Friday.

LDP Secretary General Tamisuke Watanuki told reporters that in addition to 800 billion yen of Official Development Assistance (ODA), 500 billion yen will be devoted to multipurpose use.

Japan's 70.3 trillion yen fiscal 1991 budget includes 883.1 billion yen for ODA.

Watanuki said he has instructed the party's research commission on the tax system to study possible ways to raise the multipurpose 500 billion yen.

LDP and government leaders are currently studying the imposition of a new tax designed to secure funds for Japan's international aid programs.

Trade Minister: No Change in Soviet Aid Policy

OW1312061191 Tokyo KYODO in English 0528 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe said Friday Japan will not change its aid policy to the disintegrating Soviet Union, despite the declaration of its demise and plans to replace it with the Commonwealth of Independent States.

"The situation does not allow us to make a hasty decision. We will closely watch how the things are developing there, but at this moment we have no plans to change our aid stance," he told a regular press conference after the day's cabinet meeting.

Japan has refused to give substantial financial aid to the Soviet Union until a territorial dispute is resolved and a market economy is introduced there, but in October announced a 2.5 billion U.S. dollar package, including 500 million dollars in loans for food and medical supplies and 1.8 billion dollars in insurance for Japanese exporters trading with the Soviet Union.

Turning to a proposed "international contribution tax," Watanabe was negative about an idea floated by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) that the tax be financed by extending the one-year special hike in oil and other taxes and retaining the consumption tax on automobiles at a level above the standard 3 percent.

"I agree that it is better to have stable revenue sources for Japan's international contributions, but we cannot easily agree to the proposed source items for such a tax," he said.

Soviet Economist Yavlinskiy Calls for Cooperation

OW1212185191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Visiting Soviet economic planner Grigoriy Yavlinskiy said Thursday the Soviets would like to learn from Japan's achievement of economic reconstruction after World War II to realize reforms and incorporate the Soviet Union into world economy.

Yavlinskiy expressed the wish in a meeting with Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata at the Finance Ministry.

Hata told Yavlinskiy that Japan is ready to extend the maximum possible cooperation to the Soviet Union in its attempt to achieve economic stability, which is important to world peace.

Yavlinskiy also received a one-hour explanation of the foreign exchange system from Finance Ministry officials.

He is also due to hear an explanation Friday by ministry officials of Japan's postwar credit system.

Finance Officials Stress New Tax To Boost Aid

OW1312112891 Tokyo KYODO in English 1106 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 (KYODO)—Top officials of the Finance Ministry on Friday stressed the need to introduce new taxation in fiscal 1992 to boost Japan's international contributions.

Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata said Japan should play a larger international role while trying to raise domestic living standards.

Hata, speaking at a House of Councillors Finance Committee meeting, said requests for Japan's international contributions are growing and are coming from new areas.

The finance minister also suggested that new taxes would be used to cover basic international science research such as the superconducting super collider project in the United States.

Amid the current fiscal restraint, the ministry will handle the issue in full consultation with the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, Hata said.

Meanwhile, Vice Finance Minister Hiroshi Yasuda said fiscal preparations for larger international contributions should not be neglected.

Yasuda said he would like to see the introduction of a new tax in fiscal 1992 if possible.

Asked about the actual composition of the new tax, he suggested a special corporate tax levy along with an extension of temporary taxes used to finance Japan's contributions to the allied forces during the Persian Gulf war. The temporary taxes are to expire at the end of fiscal 1991.

Yasuda also said there is a possibility that another for of tax increase could be made to secure revenue for international contributions.

Contributions already being implemented, such as official development assistance, should be financed with current revenue and not with a new tax, Yasuda said.

Keidanren Group Opposes Plan

OW1312064391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0417 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 13 KYODO—Japan's most powerful business organization urged the government Friday to drop its plan to introduce a new tax to raise funds for the nation's contribution to the international community, political and business sources said.

The Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren) made the appeal when its representatives called on executives of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), including Secretary General Tamisuke Watanuki, the sources said.

The representatives, led by Akio Morita, vice president of Keidanren and chairman of Sony Corp., said Keidanren opposes a government plan to introduce a new tax in place of its bill to allow Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to participate in United Nations peacekeeping operations overseas, they said.

The government-sponsored bill, passed by the powerful House of Representatives earlier this month, has been stranded in the House of Councillors because of strong resistance from most opposition parties, which control the upper chamber of the parliament.

The Keidanren officials told the LDP leaders the government should make every effort to pass the bill and said an increased tax burden was unacceptable with the economy facing a slowdown, the sources said.

Watanuki told an executive meeting of the LDP on Friday that the party has not yet decided on a new tax and asked the leadership to study what Japan can do to contribute to the international community, they said.

Labor Minister Tetsuo Kondo told reporters that he supported the new tax. But some senior LDP members opposed it, the sources said.

Panel Calls for Expanding Foreign Worker's Skills

OW1212102391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0905 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—A government advisory panel Thursday submitted to Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa a report that suggests changes to Japan's policies on foreign workers, panel officials said.

The ad hoc commission for the promotion of administrative reform proposed establishing an expanded skills training program for foreign workers.

In the second report of its kind, the panel also called on the government to map out fundamental principles of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) and reform its implementation system of ODA.

The panel, headed by Eiji Suzuki, proposed that foreign workers be granted the same labor conditions Japanese workers receive under the labor laws, provided that the non-Japanese workers acquire a certain level of skills under a minimum skills training system.

It proposed setting a quota for foreign workers and limit their length of stay in Japan to two years.

The panel called for clamping down on employees and agents whose business centers on illegal foreign workers.

Okinawa Mayor Considering Partial Return of Port

OW1312051991 Naha RYUKYU SHIMPO in Japanese 12 Dec 91 Morning Edition p 2

[Text] Naha Mayor Kosei Oyadomari, while speaking at the regular December session of the City Assembly on 11 December, referred to the issue of the partial return of the Naha military port, saying: "We will need to fully study the question of returning part of the port or jointly using the port if such a proposal can gain the consensus of landowners and will not become an obstacle to the overall returned-land utilization plan." Thus, for the first time, though with conditions attached, the mayor showed willingness to negotiate the question of a partial return of the port. He made this remark in reply to a question raised by Assemblyman Tomonori Itosu (of Komeito).

Assemblyman Itosu asked for the mayor's view on the possibility of returning part of the Naha military port or jointly using the port, which is now being discussed between Japan and the United States. In reply to the question, Mayor Oyadomari stressed that "my basic stance is that all of the port should be returned without delay," but added: "Since the negotiations on the return are an affair to be handled between the Japanese and the U.S. Governments, some concessions may be unavoidable under the circumstances. If a proposal does not obstruct implementation of the existing plan for utilization of returned land and can gain the concensus of landowners, we will have to fully study such a proposal. I am willing to hear the proposal."

On the question of U.S. forces' returning the Naha military port to Japan, Mayor Oyadomari has so far maintained the position that "all of the port should be returned." When he visited the United States with a City Assembly delegation in October, he directly appealed to the U.S. Government for the immediate return of the whole port. Now that Mayor Oyadomari has softened his attitude and indicated a realistic stance, it should be seen how this will affect the future negotiations on this issue between the Japanese and U.S. Governments.

The return of the Naha military port was agreed on at a meeting of the Japanese-U.S. Consultative Council in 1974 on condition that the port would be relocated. But the return of the port has not been realized for the past 17 years, because a site for relocation has not been found. For this reason, the Japanese and U.S. Governments have been talking over the possible return of part of the port.

Dispute With U.S. Over CD Rentals Unresolved

OW1212140491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1305 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—A U.S. recording industry group and a Japanese Association of Compact Disc (CD) rental shops failed Thursday to resolve their dispute over the new Japanese copyright law which allows record makers to impose a one-year ban on renting newly released CDs.

Officials of the Japan Record Rental Commerce Trade Association met in Tokyo with Jason Berman, president of the Recording Industry Association of America, and asked that Japanese shops be allowed to continue renting newly released CDs after January 1, when the new law takes effect.

Berman, however, turned down the request, the Japanese officials said.

The Japanese CD rental shop owners and U.S. industry representatives agreed to hold another round of talks on December 17 in Los Angeles.

A ban on renting newly released CDs would deal a heavy blow to the rental industry, according to the Japanese association.

Takaaki Iwamoto, president of the association, told reporters that the talks did not break down and that his group needs time to obtain U.S. understanding on the Japanese position.

Neil Turkewitz, vice president of the U.S. association, said his group sent 6,000 letters to Japanese CD rental shops "reminding them of the change in laws and the need to get authorization of the record producers."

Berman said he raised with the Japanese side how they can approach the foreign producers.

"If the rental association can convince the record companies that it is in their interest to have rental, then the rental companies will have rental," he said.

Responding to the association's claim that rentals promote American music, particularly to young people, Berman said that was not the issue.

"If toyotas and hondas were given away for nothing, it would make Americans even more interested in getting Japanese products. What we are asking is not to be told what is in our interest, but let us determine for ourselves, and the Japanese copyright law gives us that right," he said.

Ministry Approves Air France Nagoya-Paris Route

OW1212092391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0840 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—The Ministry of Transport will approve Friday an Air France request to inaugurate a twice-weekly flight between Paris and Nagoya, ministry officials said Thursday.

Air France's 246-seater Boeing 747 will begin serving the route on Saturdays and Mondays starting December 14.

It will be the airline's third destination in Japan after Tokyo and Osaka.

Flights leaving Nagoya will make stopovers in Narita and Moscow, while return trips will be flown via Narita alone.

Aviation Authority, Singapore To Boost Capacities

OW1212145291 Tokyo KYODO in English 1424 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Japanese and Singaporean civil aviation authorities agreed Thursday to build up their respective air transport capacities between the two countries by the equivalent of one round Boeing 747 flight per week, Transport Ministry officials said.

The officials said that under the agreement, effective from late March next year, Singapore will increase the frequency of flights between the island republic and Sendai, northeastern Japan, or assign a larger plane to its Singapore-Fukuoka service.

Japan will increase the number of charter flights between the two countries, they said.

Steelmakers Agree To Increased Sales With China

OW1112101891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0739 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 11 KYODO—Nippon Steel Corp. and five other major Japanese steelmakers have agreed to sell 960,000 tons of ordinary steel to China during the six months starting next February, up 70 percent from the current six-month period, Nippon Steel said Wednesday.

Officials said shipments to the China National Metals and Minerals Import and Export Corp. during the six months ending in January amount to 560,000 tons.

The Japanese companies encountered difficulties in trying to raise prices in steel trade negotiations that started November 5 in Tokyo, because of the slumping international steel market.

Japan and China reached agreement on the prices through mutual compromises, the officials said.

They said the increased export volume reflects Chinese economic recovery.

Seiko Epson Starts 2d China-Based Operation

OW0912100491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0805 GMT 9 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 9 KYODO—Seiko Epson Corp. said Monday it has started manufacturing printers for personal computers at its second factory in China's Shenzhen Economic Zone in Guangdong Province.

The Japanese electronics firm said the start-up at the second plant doubled the company's monthly production capacity to about 60,000 units.

The new factory employs 800 workers, the company said.

The No. 1 factory with a monthly capacity of 30,000 units has a workforce of about 700.

Products will be exported to the United States, Europe and Southeast Asian countries, the company said.

Korean WWII Conscripts Sue for Compensation

OW1212025391 Tokyo KYODO in English 0159 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Fourteen Koreans who during World War II served as military conscripts and forced laborers sued the Japanese Government Thursday for pensions and compensation on a par with that received by Japanese.

The suit, which also demanded an apology, was delivered to the Tokyo district court by eight former Korean military conscripts and bereaved family members, as well as family members of six forced laborers.

According to the suit handed in by group leader Kim Kyong-sok, Kim's older brother, Kim Kyong-chung was suddenly taken from his home and sent to work in the coal mines near Yubari in central Hokkaido.

After the war, Kim learned of his brother's death from other Korean laborers who also worked in the mines, but had heard nothing from the Japanese Government, according to the suit.

Chong Chan-kyo, whose father was a civilian employee of the Japanese Imperial Navy during the war, had not known whether his father was dead or alive until this February when Japan's Health and Welfare Ministry informed him that his father died in battle in New Guinea on February 22, 1943.

The suit contends that Japan, which recruited and conscripted a large number of Koreans under the national mobilization law, has the duty to inform the family members where the laborers died and where they are buried.

It also claims that appropriate compensation should be paid on humanitarian grounds.

Kim, who himself was forced to labor for NKK Corp. in Kawasaki during the war, has lodged a separate suit against the Japanese steel products manufacturer for compensation.

Nuclear-Powered Ship Concludes Final Sea Trial

OW1212023891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0154 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Mutsu, Aomori Pref., Dec. 12 KYODO—Japan's first and only nuclear-powered ship, the Mutsu, returned Thursday to its home port of Sekinehama, Aomori Prefecture in northeastern Japan, at the end of its fourth and final sea trial carried out east of Hokkaido.

The last experiments on the 8,242-ton Mutsu's nuclear reactor will be performed at the home port in January before the vessel ends its life as a nuclear-powered ship, officials of the Japan Atomic Energy Research Institute said.

The government has spent more than 100 billion yen for development and research of the nuclear-powered ship project since 1963.

The science and technology agency has been considering using the Mutsu as an all-purpose ocean research vessel after its nuclear reactor is removed, officials said.

Other options being considered are the complete scrapping of the ship, its conversion for display purposes, and the replacement of the nuclear reactor with an electrical heating device for research into marine generators.

The Mutsu was launched in 1969, but was plagued with problems throughout its history. After its reactor leaked radioactivity in September 1974, the ship was shut down for repairs until its restart in March 1990.

The Mutsu has undergone four sea trials since late February this year for a total period of three and half months.

During the trials, it sailed 64,000 kilometers, the equivalent of one and a half circumnavigations of the globe, traveling as far as off Hawaii and the Fiji Islands.

The Mutsu left its home port for the last sea trial November 13 to sail the seas east of Hokkaido.

Wholesale Prices Fall 1.3 Percent on Year in Nov

OW1212101491 Tokyo KYODO in English 0934 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Japan's wholesale prices in November were unchanged from October but fell 1.3 percent from a year earlier, the Bank of Japan (BOJ) said Thursday.

The wholesale price index in the month stood at an unadjusted 90.1 against 100 in the base year of 1985.

The domestic component of the index also remained flat from the previous month, with the index at 96.1, and dropped 0.1 percent from the previous year's level.

The year-on-year decline in domestic wholesale prices was the first since January 1989, a BOJ official briefing reporters said.

"The current stable trend in wholesale prices will continue for the time being," the official said.

Prices of chemical products, plastics, scrap iron, nonferrous metals, paper and pulp, and electric products declined, while those of fuel oil, transportation machinery, foods, and lumber and wood products rose, the BOJ said.

Export prices rose 0.4 percent from the previous month but were unchanged from a year before.

Import prices picked up 0.3 percent from October but plunged 15.5 percent from the previous year's level, the BOJ said.

The dollar averaged 129.70 yen during the month, down 0.8 percent from October but up 0.5 percent from a year earlier.

Bank Notes Slowdown in Individual Savings Growth

OW1212092591 Tokyo KYODO in English 0707 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Tokyo, Dec. 12 KYODO—Individual savings increased 7,883.3 billion yen during the July-September quarter, a slowing of 24.3 percent from the savings growth of the same period last year, the Bank of japan said Thursday.

The slowdown marked the longest slowdown ever in the quarterly savings growth rate—for seven consecutive quarters since early 1990, a central bank official said.

Individual savings outstanding at the end of September totaled 776.85 trillion yen, up 6.1 percent from a year earlier, the bank said.

Savings in private financial institutions, including commercial banks, increased 5,434.4 billion yen during the three-month period to 337.15 trillion yen at the end of September. That 5.8 percent increase was off 91.9 percent from the growth reported in the same quarter last year.

The sharp slowdown in growth resulted from a massive shift of money to higher-rate postal savings accounts, especially in July, the central bank official said.

The increase in postal savings swelled 32.4-fold for the quarter, as the total outstanding grew 4,854.7 billion yen, or 9.6 percent, to 145.31 trillion yen from the year-earlier level.

The amount outstanding in investment trusts fell 10.7 percent to 3,7650.1 billion yen at the end of September due to the faltering stock market.

Survey: Mizawa Nonsupporters Outnumber Supporters

OW1112180891 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1000 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] An NHK survey indicates that people who do not support the Miyazawa Cabinet outnumber those who do. According to an opinion poll on life and politics conducted by NHK, 35 percent responded that they support the Miyazawa Cabinet, whereas 36 percent said they do not.

NHK conducted the poll on 7 and 8 December, one month after the Miyazawa Cabinet was inaugurated, querying 1,800 people across the nation and receiving 1,175 responses.

The survey indicates that 35 percent support the Miyazawa Cabinet; 36 percent do not; and 29 percent gave no answer or said they did not know.

Compared to the previous such survey conducted last August on the Kaifu administration, the proportion supporting the government decreased by 14 percent, and the proportion of non-supporters increased by 8 percent. No answers also increased by 6 percent.

In another survey conducted in September, 1989 just after the Kaifu administration was formed, the proportion of supporters was exactly the same and the proportion of nonsupporters was 4 percent fewer.

Thirty-three percent of those who support the Miyazawa government said they do so because it was formed by the political party they support. Twenty-nine percent said they support it because the prime minister is reliable. Eighteen percent said they believe in the policies of the government, and seven percent said they approve of the government's political posture.

Compared to the August survey on the Kaifu government, the proportion believing in the government's policies increased substantially, while the proportion approving of its political posture decreased sharply from the 23 percent in the previous survey.

Meanwhile, 38 percent of those who do not support the Miyazawa government said they do not like his policies. Seventeen percent said they do not approve of the government's political posture. Another 17 percent said they do not trust the prime minister. Sixteen percent said the government is not capable of implementing policies.

Next, in answer to the question "Which political party do you usually support?" 48.4 percent said they support the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] and 14.8 percent said they support the Social Democratic Party of Japan [SPDJ]. This was followed by 5 percent of the respondents expressing support for the Komeito, 2.5 percent expressing support for the Japan Communist Party [JCP], and 3.6 percent expressing support for the Democratic Socialist Party [DSP].

Compared to the previous survey conducted in August, the proportion of people supporting the LDP shows a 7.5 percent decrease. This sharp decrease is second only to the 9.1 percent decline registered during the period from August 1986 to February 1987, when the introduction of a sales tax was the focal issue during the Nakasone administration.

Meanwhile, the proportions supporting the SPDJ and the JCP remained at almost the same levels as in the previous survey, while supporters of the Komeito and the DSP increased by 1.9 percent and 1.7 percent respectively. The proportion of those who said they do not support any political party also increased by 3 percent.

Mongolia

MPRP Congress 'Postponed' Until Jan 1992

HK1312115991 Hong Kong AFP in English 1140 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Beijing, Dec 13 (AFP)—The 21st congress of the ruling communist Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party (MPRP), set for December 25-27, has been postponed until January, an official spokesman in the capital, Ulaanbaatar, said Friday.

A delay in parliamentary debate of a proposed new constitution led to the postponement, Foreign Ministry Spokesman Tserboyshiyn Chimiddorj told AFP, adding that the session would likely be rescheduled for some time in January.

The parliamentary session, which began November 11, had been expected to end late last month by adopting a constitution establishing a parliamentary democracy.

Such a document would officially end 70 years of communism in the first Asian country to adopt that ideology.

In a telephone interview, Chimiddorj said, "The debates have been very spirited between democrats and conservatives. They could continue another week or two."

Debate has turned largely on a name change for the country, with a majority in favour of dropping "Mongolian People's Republic" as a hangover from its days as a Soviet satellite, when it was in effect Moscow's 16th republic.

The two proposed replacements are "Republic of Mongolia" and, simply, "Mongolia."

After resolving that issue, MPs must debate an annual report on the government's activities, and following the parliamentary debate but before the MPRP congress, the party central commitee will have to meet, Chimiddorj added.

Reformers in the party have already decided to create their own group, the Renaissance Party.

Reformers have joined in a movement dubbed the "Tradition of the Mongolian Revolutionary Party" since a split in the party became evident during the MPRP's 20th congress in March.

After its quiet revolution in the spring of 1990, Mongolia became the first Asian country to end communism and break with Moscow, opting for political pluralism and economic transformation along free-market lines.

But the country of some 2.5 million people faces serious economic difficulties, notably due to a halt in shipments from the Soviet Union, which previously furnished virtually all its supplies.

Chimiddorj said the economic problems, which led to rationing in the autumn, have been aggravated by bad weather.

The worst storms to hit Mongolia in about 30 years caused serious damage and the deaths of tens of thousands of livestock late last month.

Ulanbaatar, PRC's Hohhot Become Twin Cities

OW1012145291 Beijing XINHUA in English 1247 GMT 10 Dec 91

[Text] Ulaanbaatar, December 10 (XINHUA)—China's Inner Mongolian city Hohhot and the Mongolian capital Ulaanbaatar became twin cities today.

The twinning was formalized when Executive Vice-Mayor of Hohhot Yun Feng and his Ulaanbaatar counterpart Lhamsurengiyn Enebish signed an agreement in a ceremony here.

By the terms of the accord, the two cities will now enjoy extensive contacts and cooperation on the basis of mutual benefit, good-neighborly relations and mutual development.

Areas covered by the agreement include economics, trade, culture, education, health and sports.

Ulaanbaatar's mayor said the decision would have obvious benefits for both partners and help improve ties between Mongolia and China.

Zhang Deling, Chinese ambassador to the People's Republic of Mongolia was also at the signing ceremony.

North Korea

North-South Talks Conclude; Agreement Reached

Yon Hyong-muk Addresses 12 Dec Banquet

SK1212155191 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1516 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul December 12 (KCNA correspondent)—The "National Assembly speaker" of the South side hosted a dinner at the Hyatt Hotel this evening for our side's delegation to the fifth inter- Korean high-level talks.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk, head of our side's delegation, spoke at the dinner.

Noting that far more than one year has passed since the beginning of the high-level talks between the authorities of the North and the South, he said: In this period we have confirmed each other's stand and view on peace of the country and its peaceful reunification and made sincere efforts to bring a good fruit to the nation, with the result that the talks has at last entered a phase where a clear fruit is foreseen.

It is, indeed, a glad thing that we have become able to produce to the nation a joint document of agreement by bringing each other's views closer at the fifth talks this time, he said. Noting that the past days of our talks made us feel that not only authorities but also politicians should pool their wisdom and resources, he stressed: We should achieve peace of the country and build a reunified country by the whole nation's efforts.

He further said:

As there are different views of the way of reunification in the North and the South and they should be established according to the general will of the whole nation, we do not absolutize our way of reunification through confederation. proceeding from this position, we hope that not only ours but also proposals of the South side's authorities and political parties and organisations will be discussed at political consulative conference for national reunification to define a common way of the nation for reunification.

Stating that to visit the North and the South to discuss the problem of national reunification is a thing to be praised as merits, and it can ever be incriminated, he stressed that the activities of Rev Mun Ik-hwan, coed Yim Su-kyong and other visitors to the North should be estimated correctly from the national point of view and persecution of them should be discontinued from the humanitarian point of view.

Pak Chon-kyu, South side's "National Assembly speaker," made a speech.

Saying that his feelings in greeting the delegation of the North side led by Premier Yon Hyong-muk have changed, he noted that he was glad to convey to him the significant historical news from the fifth North-South high-level talks.

He hoped that this historical footsteps will continue.

The members of the North side's delegation led by Premier of the Administration Council of the DPRK Yon Hyong-muk, and its suite members and reporters staying in Seoul for the fifth North-South high-level talks inspected the Samsong Electronic Company, Ltd. in Suwon, Kyonggi Province, on December 12.

In the morning, the reporters of the North side went round the Seoul subway.

On the eleventh the delegation of our side visited the Lotte World Folklore Museum in Seoul and appreciated an art performance in the Seoul City theatre.

Conclusion of Talks Reported

SK1312050791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0200 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] The fifth round of North-South high-level talks successfully ended this morning. The site of the talks was crowded with numerous domestic and foreign reporters who had gathered to cover the historic signing of the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South, a document of joint agreement between the North and the South, which has been finally adopted after five occasions of full-dress talks and 12 occasions of delegates' contacts since the opening of the first round of North-South high-level talks held in September of last year.

At 0900 members of our side's delegation led by Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK State Administration Council, arrived at the site of the talks. Members of the South side's delegation led by Chong Won-sik also arrived at the site of the talks. The work of confirming the agreement, the text of which was completed by the delegates of both sides through their contacts on 12 and 13 December, proceeded at the talks.

Premier Yon Hyong-muk, head of our side's delegation, and Chong Won-sik, chief delegate of the South side, signed the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South and exchanged copies of the document.

Concluding the talks Premier Yon Hyong-muk, head of our side's delegation, saying that the fifth round of North-South high-level talks, held amid the great expectation and interest of the people at home and abroad, is coming to a close with outstanding fruit, stated that both sides have signed the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South and that an agreement has been reached between both sides to hold delegates' contacts within this year for the discussion of urgent proposals on the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

Stressing that this is the most precious success which has been achieved between the authorities of the North and the South for the first time since the announcement of the 4 July joint statement in 1972, he said that the signing of the agreement has not only opened a bright prospect in the high-level talks, but has also made it possible to actively hold broad scale dialogue in various fields between the North and the South.

Stressing that based on today's success our side has opened a wide road for the removal of the political and military confrontation between the North and the South and for the realization of multilateral cooperation and exchange between them, which was our intrinsic mission, he continued: The agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South that has been agreed upon between us is a programmatic document which embodies the principles of independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity elucidated in the 4 July joint statement, and with this agreement we will be able to vigorously make one step forward toward the road of peace, detente, and reunification. The success of the fifth round of talks will give great joy to all fellow countrymen and cause great repercussions among the people of the world who want peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula.

Saying that both sides, however, should not be satisfied with this success, he stressed that our fellow countrymen's ardent desire for reunification and peace should be achieved at the earliest possible date, that an oustanding palace of peace and reconciliation should be built with the already built foundation and the pillars erected this time, and that all efforts should be directed toward making more rapid progress in the talks so as to realize the long-cherished desire of the 70 million fellow countrymen without fail.

He stressed that, at present, the contact between both sides' delegates on the nuclear issue should be successfully held and that, thus, another historic antinuclear joint document should be discussed to make the territory of our country a genuie nuclear-free, peace zone devoid of nuclear weapons.

In conclusion, saying that any act which may defame the precious success of the current talks should be renounced and that, proceeding from such a spirit, next year's Team Spirit joint military exercise should be prudently reviewed again, Premier Yon Hyong-muk stressed that both sides should respectively finalize at an early date their procedures for effectuating the agreement so that subcommittees stipulated in the agreement can be formed and all matters agreed upon can be put into practice at the earliest possible date.

After the talks ended, An Pyong-su, our side's spokesman, met reporters.

Joint Communique Issued

SK1312092991 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 13 Dec 91

["Joint communique" on the fifth round of North-South high-level talks—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The North and the South signed the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, cooperation, and exchanges on 13 December, 1991, and agreed to take procedures for putting it into effect as soon as possible.

2. The North and the South are of the same view that nuclear weapons should not exist on the Korean peninsula and have agreed to hold delegates' contact at Panmunjom in December this year.

3. The North and the South agreed to hold the sixth round of the full-dress talks in Pyongyang from 18-21 February 1992.

'Full Text' of Cooperation Agreement

SK1312060891 Pyongyang Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0204 GMT 13 Dec 91

["Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and the South"; read by announcer]

[Text] An agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South was adopted at the third-day session of the fifth North-South high-level talks held in Seoul today.

Follows the full text of the agreement:

Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Cooperation and Exchange Between the North and the South

Pursuant to the will of all the fellow countrymen desirous of the peaceful reunification of the divided country,

Reaffirming the three principles of national reunification laid down in the July 4 North-South joint statement,

Pledging themselves to remove the political and military confrontation for the achievement of national reconciliation, for the prevention of invasion and conflicts by the armed forces, for the realization of detente and for the guarantee of peace, to realize many-sided cooperation and exchange for the promotion of the common interests and prosperity of the nation, and to make concerted efforts to achieve peaceful reunification, admitting that the relationship between the sides is not the one between countries but a special one formed temporarily in the process of advancing towards reunification, the North and the South have agreed as follows:

1. North-South Reconciliation

Article 1. The North and the South shall recognize and respect the system that exists on the other side.

Article 2. The North and the South shall not interfere in the internal affairs of the other side.

Article 3. The North and the South shall cease to abuse and slander the other side.

Article 4. The North and the South shall refrain from all acts aimed at destroying and overthrowing the other side.

Article 5. The North and the South shall make concerted efforts to convert the present armistice into a durable peace between the North and the South and observe the present military armistice agreement until such peace has been achieved.

Article 6. The North and the South shall discontinue confrontation and competition, cooperate with each other and make concerted efforts for national dignity and interests in the international arena.

Article 7. The North and the South shall set up and operate a North-South Liaison Office at Panmunjom within 3 months after the effectuation of this agreement in order to ensure close contacts and consultation with each other.

Article 8. The North and the South shall form a North-South political subcommittee within the framework of the full-dress talks in one month after the effectuation of this agreement in order to discuss concrete measures for implementing and observing the agreement on North-South reconciliation.

2. North-South Nonaggression

Article 9. The North and the South shall not use arms against the other side, nor shall they invade the other by force of arms.

Article 10. The North and the South shall settle differences and disputes between them peacefully through dialogue and negotiation.

Article 11. The North and the South shall designate as the demarcation line and zone of nonaggression the Military Demarcation Line which was laid down in the agreement on the military armistice dated July 27, 1953 and the area which has so far been within the jurisdiction of the sides.

Article 12. In order to implement and guarantee nonaggression the North and the South shall set up and operate a North-South joint military committee within three months after the effectuation of this agreement. The North-South joint military committee shall discuss and promote the realization of military confidence-building and disarmament, such as notification of and control over the transfer of large units and military exercises, use of the demilitarized zone for peaceful purposes, exchange of military personnel and information, the realization of phased arms cutdown including the removal of mass destruction weapons and offensive capability and their verification.

Article 13. The North and the South shall install and operate direct telephone links between the military authorities of the sides in order to prevent the outbreak and escalation of accidental armed conflicts.

Article 14. The North and the South shall form a North-South military subcommittee within the framework of the full-dress talks in one month after the effectuation of this agreement and discuss concrete measures for the implementation and observance of the agreement on nonaggression and the removal of military confrontation.

3. North-South Cooperation and Exchange

Article 15. The North and the South shall effect economic cooperation and exchange, such as joint development of resources and the exchange of goods in the form of exchange within the nation and joint investment for the coordinated and balanced development of the national economy and for the promotion of the well-being of the whole nation.

Article 16. The North and the South shall effect cooperation and exchange in various fields, such as science, technology, education, literature and art, public health, sports, environment and mass media including newspapers, radio, tv and publications.

Article 17. The North and the South shall effect free travels and contacts between members of the nation.

Article 18. The North and the South shall effect free correspondence, travels, meetings and visits between the separated families and relatives and their reunion based on their free will and take measures regarding other problems awaiting humanitarian solution.

Article 19. The North and the South shall connect severed railways and roads and open sea and air routes.

Article 20. The North and the South shall install and connect the facilities necessary for the exchange of Post and Telecommunication and ensure secrecy in this sphere of exchange.

Article 21. The North and the South shall cooperate with each other in economic, cultural and many other fields in the international arena and jointly conduct external activities.

Article 22. For the implementation of the agreement on effecting cooperation and exchange in various fields, such as economy and culture, the North and the South shall form and operate a North- South joint economic cooperation and exchange committee and other departmental joint committees within three months after the effectuation of this agreement.

Article 23. In order to discuss concrete measures for the implementation and observance of the agreement on cooperation and exchange between the North and the South, the two parts shall establish a North-South cooperation and exchange subcommittee within the framework of the full-dress talks in one month after the effectuation of the agreement.

4. Amendments and Effectuation

Article 24. This agreement can be amended and supplemented by mutual consent.

Article 25. This agreement shall become effective as from the date when the North and the South exchange its text after they go through necessary formalities.

December 13, 1991

Premier of the DPRK Administration Council Yon Hyon-muk, head of the North side's delegation to the N-S high-level talks;

Prime Minister of the ROK Chong Won-sik, chief delegate of the South side's delegation to the S-N high-level talks.

North Delegation Departs; Statement Issued

SK1312090691 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0800 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Our side's delegation, which had attended the fifth round of North-South high-level talks, left Seoul today.

The South side's delegates left with our delegation for Panmunjom.

An Pyong-su, spokesman for our side's delegation, issued a statement on the delegation's departure in Seoul. He said in the statement that both sides, at the fifth round of talks, finally gave birth to an agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchanges between the North and the South after more than a year of hardships. He added that both sides created a valuable dialogue table to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, which had not been addressed for approximately 30 years. He expressed the conviction that the great fruit borne at the talks will brighten the prospect for talks and will be a new occasion for hewing the road of peace, reconciliation, and reunification for the country.

An Pyong-su pointed out that the result will encourage all compatriots in the North, the South, and overseas to hope for the national reunification. He said that the result will more vigorously lead all the nation to accelerate the march toward reunification in the 1990's. He said that come what may between both sides, they should steadily overcome difficulties with sincerity and efforts and persistently advance the national joint target of reunification. He stressed that, in keeping with the national history heading toward the country's peace and peaceful reunification, we will make all efforts to establish successful progress in the talks and to put into practice the agreement signed by both sides as soon as possible.

When the delegation left Seoul, employees of the hotel warmly saw off the delegation and suite members.

Chong Won-sik, chief delegate of the South side's delegation, saw off our side's delegation led by Premier Yon Hyong-muk.

A large number of citizens warmly saw off our delegation and entourage members in the Seoul streets.

Delegation Returns to Pyongyang

SK1312124491 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Our side's delegation led by Comrade Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK Administration Council, arrived in Pyongyang this afternoon.

Yun Ki-pok, vice chairman of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF], Choe Mun-son, chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal People's Committee, and other functionaries concerned met the delegation.

Chon Kum-chol, vice chairman of the CPRF, greeted the delegation in Panmunjom and accompanied it.

Entourage members and reporters also arrived in Pyongyang.

Prior to this, our side's delegation came over to our side's area in Panmunjom with the South side's delegates seeing it off.

South Treatment of North Reporters Criticized

SK1212044691 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0428 GMT 12 Dec 91

["Is It Hospitality to Guests?"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Seoul December 10 (KCNA correspondent)—The insincere and dishonest behaviour of the South side's authorities toward the press corps from the North now staying in Seoul to cover the fifth round of the inter-Korean high-level talks provoked unpleasant feelings among them from the very moment of their arrival.

Contrary to the welcome of Seoul citizens, the South side's authorities launched an "operation" of binding our reporters' hands and feet.

They designated the Sheraton Hotel as the lodging of our delegates and guided the reporters to an annex far away from the hotel.

Our reporters seem to be detained in a barrack as the lodging house on a hilltop overlooks the River Han on its one side and a cliff with barbed-wire entanglements on its opposite side.

Our reporters are not allowed to move anywhere unless they are guided by the South side.

No wonder, some people going around the hotel deplored that our reporters watching out of windows looked like rabbits in a hutch.

We let the South side's delegation and reporters stay in the luxury Paekhwa Guest House in Pyongyang, where usually foreign heads of states put up. Is it the reciprocation of the South side's authorities for our sincerity?

The South Korean authorities took such a measure, afraid of contacts of our reporters with South Korean people.

The word "opening" uttered by the South Korean authorities while hindering the activities of our 50 reporters is a sheer lie; it is nothing but a foolish act to gain something, casting sheep's eyes at the northern half of the country.

The South Korean authorities are well advised to discard their childish idea.

U.S. Arms Industry Blamed for Korean Tensions

SK1312102791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1002 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 13 (KCNA)—The U.S. imperialists are aggravating the tensions on the Korean peninsula and are becoming all the more reckless in their moves to unleash a new war against the North, raising a hue and cry over the fictitious "development of nuclear weapons" by the North.

In a signed article titled "'Development of Nuclear Weapons' on the Lips of U.S. Imperialists" and U.S. Munition Monopolies", [quotation marks as received] NODONG SINMUN today says:

It is very ill-boding in every sense that the United States, styling itself as a "sole superpower" in the world, is kicking off a war racket against our country which is not big.

Not more than once [as received] have we declared we possess no nuclear weapons and have neither intention nor capacity to make them. It is not us but the United States that is posing a nuclear threat to the Korean peninsula because it is staging frantic nuclear war exercises against us almost every day, deploying more than 1,000 pieces of nuclear weapons for action in South Korea. This is an undeniable stark reality.

The U.S. imperialists, however, are so frantic in their moves to ignite a new war against the North after faking up the fiction of "threat of development of nuclear weapons" by the North. Why?

This is because the U.S. munition monopolies seek to keep vast military power and war industry and revitalize the crisis-affected economy by aggravating the situation on the Korean peninsula and converting it into a new hot spot.

The ever-increasing tensions and danger of war on the Korean peninsula today are entirely ascribable to the U.S. imperialists' policy of aggression to keep vast military power and war industries as they are, bridge over the economic crisis and give the munition monopolies another chance of getting "shower of gold".

The U.S. bellicose policy to convert the Korean peninsula into a new hot spot clearly shows once again that the aggressive nature of the imperialists will never change and the deeper the imperialists are plunged into a crisis, the more vicious they are becoming.

Envoy in Moscow Cites Nuclear Inspection Stand

SK1112011791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] Son Song-pil, DPRK ambassador to the Soviet Union, on 6 December was interviewed by a TASS reporter at the embassy on nuclear inspections.

Ambassador Son Song-pil first referred to the progressive proposal made by the DPRK Foreign Ministry in its 25 November statement that the DPRK will sign the Nuclear Safeguards Accord if the United States begins to withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea. He said that the DPRK's position is that, first, if the United States begins to withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea, the DPRK will sign the Nuclear Safeguards

Accord; that, second, the inspection to ascertain the existence of the U.S. nuclear weapons in South Korea and the inspection of the DPRK nuclear facilities should be conducted simultaneously; that, third, DPRK-U.S. negotiations to discuss the issue of the simultaneous nuclear inspection and the issue of eliminating the nuclear threat against us should be held; and that, fourth, now that the North and the South have expressed the common desire not to develop nuclear weapons and to turn the Korean peninsula into a nuclear-free zone, North-South negotiations for its realization should be held. He stressed that this clarifies everything.

Referring to the reports that the United States has already begun to withdraw its nuclear weapons from South Korea after the DPRK had announced this position, Ambassador Son Song-pil noted: If the United States has actually begun to withdraw nuclear weapons from South Korea, it is a good thing. However, we cannot ascertain this from anyone else other than the party concerned. The owner of the nuclear weapons in South Korea is the United States. Since the U.S. Government should carry out their withdrawal, the United States, the party concerned, should give a definite reply that it has begun the withdrawal. He said that if this is ascertained, the DPRK will put its promise into practice. He stressed that the United States should positively respond to our proposal at an early date. Then he answered questions posed by the reporter.

Kim Il-song Receives Diplomats' Credentials

SK1112142991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1031 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 11 (KCNA)—The great leader President Kim Il-song today received credentials from newly- appointed ambassadors extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Denmark and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania to the DPRK William Friis Moller and Kamara Aly Gueladio. Kim Yong-nam, vice-premier of the Administration Council and foreign minister, was present at the presentation ceremonies.

President Kim Il-song had conversations with the ambassadors after receiving the credentials.

Foreign Ministry Delegation Visits Iran

SK1112074191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 9 Dec 91

[Text] Our country's Foreign Ministry delegation headed by Kang Sok-chu, first vice foreign minister, visited Iran from 4 to 8 December.

During the visit, the delegation met and held talks with Hasan Hajiri, first vice president of Iran; Akbar Torkan, chairman of Iran-DPRK Joint Economic Committee who is also minister of defense and Armed Forces Logistics; 'Ali Mohammad Besharati, first deputy foreign minister; and Mehdi Karrubi, speaker of the Iranian Consultative Assembly.

At meetings and talks, opinions on developing the relations between the DPRK and Iran and on issues of mutual interests were exchanged.

During the visit, the delegation toured historic relics in the Shiraz district. The delegation was also invited to a banquet arranged by the Iranian Foreign Ministry.

Prior to this, the delegation laid a wreath at the tomb of Ayatollah Imam Khomeyni, former Islamic leader of Iran.

Delegation Returns

SK1212044191 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1500 GMT 10 Dec 91

[Text] The DPRK diplomatic delegation led by First Vice Minister Kang Sok-chu, which visited Germany, Italy, and Iran, returned home on 10 December by plane.

The delegation was welcomed at the airport by Song Ho-kyong, vice minister of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Hamid Malek Abdi, Iranian charge d'affairs ad interim to our country; and members of Germany's (?Likun) protection office.

MINJU CHOSON Delegates Return From PRC

SK1012093791 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 5 Dec 91

[Text] A MINJU CHOSON delegation led by Kim Chong-suk, MINJU CHOSON's responsible editor, returned home by train from a visit to China.

Kang Chong-chc' first deputy chief editor of MINJU CHOSON, and Zheng Yi, PRC ambassador to our country, greeted the delegation at the Pyongyang Railway Station.

Delegations Leave for Foreign Visits

SK1312011091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1511 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 12 (KCNA)—A delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] headed by Yi Mong-ho, member of the WPK Central Committee and director of the Secretariat of the Standing Committee of the Supreme People's Assembly, to participate in the 14th congress of the Communist Party of Greece, a DPRK Government forestry delegation led by Kim Chae-yul, minister of forestry, to visit the Russian Federation and a DPRK Government economic delegation led by Chong Song-nam, minister of external economic affairs, to visit Syria and Libya left here today by air.

South Media Criticisms Called 'Premeditated'

SK1212045391 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0432 GMT 12 Dec 91

["South Korean Authorities' Anti-Dialogue, Anti-Reunification Intention"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 12 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities are now zealously speaking ill of our system while our delegation is staying in Seoul to participate in the fifth North- South high-level talks.

In an article titled "Invariable Wicked Intention" sent by the reporters corps from Seoul, NODONG SINMUN today says:

The South Korean authorities instructed HANGUK ILBO, KUGMIN ILBO, CHOSON ILBO and other paid mass media to carry articles slandering our socio-political system and instigated those belonging to right-wing reactionary organizations to drive cars carrying slogans "Anti-communism, prevailing over communism" on the route to Seoul when our delegation and its party were heading for Seoul.

The paper further says:

This is a deliberate and premeditated act to spoil the atmosphere of dialogue and impede the progress at talks and an undisguised expression of their anti-dialogue, anti-reunification intention.

Such rude and uncourteous acts show that though they are talking about "dialogue" and "unification", they have no willingness to solve the reunification question peacefully through dialogue.

The South Korean authorities, getting overheated in the anti-DPRK propaganda, bereft of reason, are seeking to prevent South Korean people from joining the increasing number of adherents of the chuche idea and longing for the northern half of the country.

While sitting face to face with us at the negotiating table, they are still keeping the reunification champions who visited the North behind bars and suppressing the National Council of Student Representatives and other patriotic organizations for reunification and democracy as "pro-communist organizations benefiting the enemy" and "forces seeking to overthrow the system" for the mere reason that they are sharing the same opinion with the North over the reunification question.

This is not the first time that the South Korean authorities greeted guests with such dishonest acts, after inviting them.

It is apparent that the South Korean authorities are persistently pursuing the policy of confrontation and division, disliking national reconciliation and unity with us and reunification.

Their rude acts are casting a shadow over the prospect of dialogue.

Release of Prisoners Who Visited North Demanded

SK1112055791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0445 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 11 (KCNA)—If they truly have the intention to achieve the improvement of relations between the North and the South, national unity and reunification, the South Korean authorities should show it by their practical action of releasing those who visited the North for reunification, urges NODONG SINMUN Tuesday in a signed article.

The article says:

We have repeatedly demanded that the South side set free those who visited the North for reunification from the first days since the start of the North-South high-level talks. The South side, nevertheless, has neither released the reunification envoys nor shown any positive move for the settlement of their question till today when the fifth round of the high-level talks is at hand.

The visitors to the North such as Rev. Mun Ik-hwan and Mr. Yu Won-ho who accompanied him, coed Yim Su-kyong and Father Mun Kyu-hyon who accompanied her when she passed through Panmunjom made trips to the North out of the single desire for national reconciliation, unity and reunification and the South Korean personages of different circles who participated in the Berlin tripartite working-level talks are also pro-reunification patriots who discussed the problem of powerfully waging the movement for national reunification.

Their deeds in making righteous trips for reunification and doing good things conducive to the accomplishment of the reunification cause are patriotic deeds worthy of the praise of the whole nation.

Releasing the visitors to the North is an urgent demand for the improvement of relations between the North and the South and for national unity and reunification.

Today when the improvement of relations between the North and the South, national unity and reunification pose as an irresistible urgent demand for the nation, we the dialogue partner cannot look with folded arms at the South Korean pro-reunification visitors to the North being kept behind bars for an indefinite period.

Whether the South Korean rulers release those visitors or not is the touchstone whether they have sincerity for the improvement of the relations between the North and the South and whether they have the intention to solve the reunification question through dialogue, or not.

Practice of 'Slave Labour' in South Denounced

SK1112143991 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 11 Dec 91

["Tragedy Caused by South Korean Anti-Popular Labour Policy"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang December 11 (KCNA)—Kwon Mikyong, a female worker of a shoe-making company in Pusan of South Korea, threw herself to death from the rooftop of the building of the company on December 6 in protest against the forcible long-hour slave labour.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today terms such a self-immolation as product of the slave labour forced upon and exploitation of workers by the capitalists under the patronage of the authorities.

The news analyst of the paper says:

The South Korean workers are now undergoing immeasurable pains from the harsh exploitation by the foreign monopoly capital and comprador capitalists and from the authorities' anti-popular policy of labour.

The South Korean authorities have encouraged by "law" the capitalists to harshly exploit the workers by indefinitely extending their labour time.

The "30-minute extra labour" introduced some time ago in South Korea was invented by the authorities in a bid to squeeze the workers in league with capitalists.

As long as a colonial military rule remains intact and the homicidal labour policy continues in South Korea, workers can never avoid such tragedy as Kwon Mikyong's.

If the South Korean workers are to enjoy a true labour life, a life worthy of man, with the rights of labour guaranteed, the anti- popular colonial military rule must be terminated and the murderous labour policy be abolished.

Mass Rally Held in Pyongyang for South Defector

SK1312054091 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0401 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Pyongyang December 13 (KCNA)—Pyongyang citizens held a mass meeting Thursday to warmly welcome Pom O-kyun, trade representative of the South Korean Yurim Company Ltd. who came over to the northern half of Korea.

An Order of the DPRK and a large sum of prize were awarded and a souvenir was conveyed to him at the meeting.

In his welcome speech, Sin An-pang, vice-chairman of the Pyongyang Municipal Administration and Economic Guidance Committee, highly praised the defection of Pom O-kyun as a manifestation of his patriotic will for the country and the nation and a righteous deed inspiring the whole nation with the ardent desire to accomplish the cause of national reunification.

Speaking in reply, Pom O-kyun said.

What impressed me deeply in the North is the kind benefits granted by its system to the working masses, he said, and stressed: the popular sentiments in the South are definitely turning to President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Mr. Kim Chong-il who are shaping policies for the popular masses.

He said he would work hard for national reunification and socialist construction in the North with highest honor and greatest joy at having been embraced in the bosom of the DPRK.

Kim Il-song Gives Guidance in South Hamgyong

SK1312055991 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2100 GMT 10 Dec 91

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has given on-the- spot guidance [*hyonjieso jidohassyossumnida*] to the work in different fields of the people's economy in South Hamgyong Province.

The great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song gave on-the-spot guidance to the work in different fields of the people's economy in South Hamgyong Province from 27 November to 7 December.

He was accompanied by Comrades Yon Hyong-muk, Yi Chong-ok, Han Song-yong, Choe Yong-nim, Hong Sihak, So Kwan-hui, and Kim Hwan.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song looked around the Hungnam fertilizer complex where the project of introducing large-size and modern equipment was successfully completed with its commissioning at hand.

The giant large-size and modern fertilizer production process built at the Hungnam fertilizer complex with the heroic spirit of the Korean working class is one more proud creation made in the era of the Workers Party with our own design, technology, materials, equipment, and our own efforts.

The project of introducing large-size and modern equipment into the Hungnam fertilizer complex represented a big new technical transformation undertaking for replacing all the fertilizer production processes with highly efficient and automated equipment based upon the latest science and technology.

The successful introduction of large-size and modern equipment of the world's standards to the Hungnam fertilizer complex has made it possible to significantly raise the fertilizer production capacity, enabled our workers to work joyously in an environment in which production culture is guaranteed, and helped to further augment our economic might and bring about a new turn in rapidly developing agricultural production.

Our working class and builders brought about the miracle of successfully finishing in just three months the project for introducing large and modern equipment into the complex, a project as vast as building a large fertilizer factory, under the slogan "When the party is determined, we can do anything!" by fully displaying intense loyalty to the party and the leader and the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and hard struggle.

The successful introduction of large-size and modern equipment at the Hungnam fertilizer complex is a proud manifestation of our party's great leadership and our people's boundless and single- minded loyalty toward the party and the leader and their boundless creativity, and the might of the strong self-reliant national economy and the chuche-oriented industries. This is also a clear demonstration of the ever-victorious might of the popular masses- centered socialism of our own style.

Acquainting himself in detail with the mechanism and efficiency of the equipment, including the large compounding tanker and 4,000-hp compressors, and with the achievements made in their manufacture and building, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song expressed deep satisfaction with the successful production and operation of all the equipment.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song expressed satisfaction to the builders who had qualitatively finished the large-scale project in a short period of time by displaying the Chollima spirit and the Paektu revolutionary spirit and to the workers, technicians, and officials of major plants and enterprises who had successfully guaranteed the supply of facilities and materials.

Noting that the successful manufacture of the large and modern equipment at the Hungnam fertilizer complex with their own efforts and technology in a short of time is something to be greatly proud of, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that this is because our independent economic foundation is very strong and because the strength of our workers who remain boundlessly faithful to the party and the revolution is inexhaustible and that thanks to this great strength, our people successfully carry out any difficult tasks.

Saying that with chemical fertilizer production expected to increase, it has become possible to effect a new turn in agricultural production in the future and to successfully realize the centuries-old desire of our people to be better fed and clad and live in better houses, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gave programmatic teachings that will serve as a guideline in sharply increasing the fertilizer production through better management and operation of the factory.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song congratulated the builders on their labor feats performed in the project for introducing large and modern equipment to the complex and posed for a photograph with them.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song then convened consultative meetings of different domains and put forward the tasks for various fields of the people's economy in the province.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song underscored the need to further develop the chemical industry.

Noting that fertilizer, vinalon, and vinyl chloride are very important for our country's economic development, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that great, sustained efforts should be directed to the development of the chemical industry to find a satisfactory solution to this problem.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said: As the project for introducing large and modern equipment in the Hungnam fertilizer complex was completed and commissioned, it is necessary to keep the fertilizer production going at a high level and, at the same time, push ahead the work to create the capacity to boost fertilizer production.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that to normalize fertilizer production at the Hungnam fertilizer complex, systems necessary for repairing and maintaining all the equipment must be established, thus guaranteeing that the plant is operated at full capacity.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song also said that for the steady increase of fertilizer production which is of weighty significance in grain production, the existing fertilizer factories should be operated at full capacity and that, at the same time, the construction of new fertilizer factories including the fertilizer factory at the Sunchon vinalon complex should be completed ahead of schedule.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song instructed that the February 8 vinalon complex should make energetic endeavors to keep the vinalon production going at a high level and, at the same time, concentrate efforts on the second-stage project of the oxygen plant shop to finish it in a short time and thus complete the carbide production process by means of blowing oxygen and effect a turning point in the production of chemical goods of different kinds.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song instructed that the Sinhung chemical complex should produce more chemical goods including vinyl chloride, caustic soda, and pesticide and supply them to industrial and agricultural domains.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song also said that one of the important tasks facing the chemical industry is to thoroughly establish refined methods of production to always provide the workers with a hygienic and cultured environment.

Putting forward the task to increase fishery products, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that the South Hamgyong Province, which borders the sea, must pay particular attention to developing the fisheries industry, thus endlessly increasing the production of fisheries products.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song also said that to supply the people with fresh fish all year around it is necessary to successfully conduct small-scale fishing and sea cultivation along with pelagic and deep-sea fishing.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song designated goals for fishery production to be attained by South Hamgyong Province for a few years and said that to fulfill this task, the per capita production of employees of fisheries enterprises must be increased and that various fishing equipment must be sufficiently supplied.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song also gave teachings on bringing about a new turn in agricultural production.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song said that under circumstances in which the water problem is solved satisfactorily and in which fertilizer is produced and supplied sufficiently, our agriculture could be developed to a higher stage and that an epochal turn could be brought about in grain production.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song also said that the chuche- based farming method whose might has been clearly proven in practice should be thoroughly implemented to rapidly increase agricultural production on the basis of the superiority of our socialist agricultural system with firm material and technical foundations.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song also said that the work of disseminating science and technology in rural areas must be carried out substantially, thus thoroughly adhering to the demands of the chuche-oriented farming method in raising and transplanting rice seedlings, spraying fertilizer, and pulling water into paddies.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song also said that all the agricultural officials must carry out guidance work on farming as requested by the Chongsan-ri spirit and the Chongsan-ri method.

Saying that our heroic working class and other workers are now working new miracles one after another in every part of the country by accelerating the vigorous advance of socialist construction in the same indomitable revolutionary spirit as was displayed in the period of the postwar rehabilitation and construction, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song called on them to bring about once again a great upsurge on all fronts of socialist construction with the same vim and vigor and thus fully demonstrate the might of the popular masses-centered socialism of our own style.

The historic teachings which the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song gave when he was giving on-the-spot guidance in South Hamgyong Province will be programmatic guidelines for bringing about great new upsurges in all fields of the people's economy and will be encouraging banners that will inspire all party members and workers to the noble struggle to hasten the complete victory of socialism.

Socialism Stresses Right to Work 'Guarantee'

SK1012125891 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0010 GMT 7 Dec 91

[NODONG SINMUN 7 December "special article": "The Important Superiority of Socialism Is To Thoroughly Guarantee the Right To Work"]

[Text] In his programmatic work "The Popular Masses-centered Socialism of Our Own Style Is Indomitable," the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, elucidating the superiority of socialism of our own style, has profoundly clarified its superiority from the labor perspective.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: The right to work is one of the basic rights that the people, as master of society, should assume. Guaranteeing the right to work is an important factor in defining the progressiveness of a social system.

In his work he has defined the guaranteeing of the right to work as an important factor in the progressiveness of a social system. This becomes an important achievement in elucidating the superiority of socialism.

We should study the progressiveness of a social system with the people, who are masters of society, as its core. In addition, we should elucidate it on the basis of how to give the people their rights. Among many rights, the right to work is basic for people.

Only when the people are given the right to work can they enjoy various kinds of rights to life. Work creates the wealth of human society. Only through work can they create the material and cultural wealth they need. In the course of its creation, they make themselves stronger.

If we lose the right to work, we will lose the rights to eat, wear clothes, spend money, and live. In the long run, we will lose the right to life. Because of this, we can say that the people's right to work is the people's basic right.

If we cannot guarantee the people's basic right to work, like in a capitalist society, we will not guarantee the people's human right at all. Whether we can guarantee the right to work or not is an important criterion in defining if a society is for the people.

A society in which people wander from place to place with no jobs must be an antipeople society trampling on human rights.

The imperialists and reactionaries disguise the capitalist society as one that protects human rights. In the capitalist society, however, there are hundreds and thousands of unemployed in rags and starving to death.

In this society, not only a great number of unemployees but also part-time employees wander the streets. Even the people who have jobs are desperate and uneasy about their jobs, because they do not know when they might lose them.

In the capitalist society, working people are deprived of their right to work and of their jobs. This is inevitable in that society. Only in socialism can the people get jobs and enjoy their life and work.

Socialism of our own style gives the people the right to work. In this respect, it is outstanding as the most superior popular masses-centered socialism. From the viewpoint of labor, the superiority of socialism of our own style is, first, to firmly provide stable jobs for all the working people under any circumstances.

Socialism of our own style gives the working people the right to work. Thus it can truly protect the people's human rights as well as guarantee their creative life. The state is providing our working people with stable jobs according to their ability and quality.

Under the thoughtful care of the party and the state, our people, with stable jobs, have worked and lived for a long time. Because of this, our people are living happily without knowing the word unemployed.

Only with this can we realize that our country's socialism makes a better society for the people to live in. By actually living in it, our people are convinced that socialism of our own style is the most superior society and provides everyone with stable jobs. Because of this, our people are faithfully working for the state and society, thus participating in creative work.

From the labor viewpoint, socialism of our own style, along with its advance, will make the people's work more joyful and rewarding.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated: For the people to make creative labor more rewarding, we should liberate the working people from their difficult and heavy labor and prepare more cultural and sanitary labor conditions for them.

The people, who regard the independence, creativity, and consciousness as intrinsic, can finally be liberated from social subordination as well as from constraint of nature. In addition, they can enjoy an independent and creative life.

To fulfill the popular masses' demands, we should liberate the working people, who were previously liberated from exploitation and oppression, from their difficult and heavy labor and prepare more cultural and sanitary labor conditions for them.

If we do, we can make work more rewarding. In addition, we can thoroughly fulfill the global aspiration of the popular masses who want to enjoy their independent and creative life.

Machinery and technology are the basis for making a creative work life more rewarding. If the people work in facilities with advanced machinery and technology, not by their labor, and if those facilities are introduced in the process of labor, efficient labor can be more greatly promoted. Thanks to this, the people can be gradually liberated from their hard labor. In addition, they can work in better cultural and sanitary circumstances. However, this cannot be done by itself.

The development of productive force in society creates possibilities that provide more outstanding working conditions for the people. However, those possibilities depend on the character of the liberated social system.

In a capitalist society, machines can be introduced into the labor process only when it gives the capitalists more profit, however efficient it may be. Even so, the workers can be turned into an appendage of the machine. In addition, they will suffer from the heavy work.

By its own definition, the capitalist system cannot liberate the people from difficult and heavy labor, however much it produces. In addition, it cannot provide better labor conditions for them.

Only the socialist system can liberate the working people from difficult and heavy work on the basis of a planned and rapid development of productive force. It can also provide the working people the way to better cultural and sanitary labor conditions.

Under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, these facts can accord with the realities of the state's overall policy toward the people.

Only the people, who hold the great leader [widaehan yongdoja] in high esteem, can greatly enjoy their rewarding work under a good system.

Since the beginning of the construction of a new society, our party has carried out its people-oriented policies to improve the working people's labor conditions.

After liberation, even one gram of iron was very important in our country. However, we took a step to destroy the open electronic furnaces [woncholryo] which are harmful to the working people's health. This demonstrates the superiority of socialism of our own style in which all things serve the people.

After the establishment of a socialist system, our party put forward the technical revolution as a constant revolutionary task. In addition, our party, which does not regard the technical revolution as a simple and technical working-level task, has clarified it as an important political task in liberating the working people from difficult work, thus obliterating essential labor differences. It has struggled to achieve this.

Our people are working in plants with many machines. Our people have also entered a new era of mechanization and automation in farming. Along with this, they are fully enjoying the rewarding life of labor.

Because of our party's chuche-oriented viewpoint, which regards the people as valuable, the workers in our country are provided with stable jobs. Thus, their labor life becomes rewarding.

To give or not to give the people the right to work are two fundamental differences between the chuche-oriented viewpoint and bourgeois viewpoint.

The chuche-oriented view of the people is that it regards them as the most valuable existence in the world, and it prepares a rewarding and creative labor life for them.

On the other hand, the bourgeois view of the people regards them as objects of exploitation and producers of surplus value. The capitalists, who regard the people as goods and as appendages of machines, consider the working people important only when they provide profits.

The bourgeois viewpoint, which estimates the people's value by their money and materials, is that it calls on the bourgeoisie to use unemployment as pressure to increase the labor quality and regards its increase as good for them.

The ideology of capitalism and the bourgeois view of the working people are that the unemployed should be increased to strengthen exploitation for more production.

Only when we establish the chuche-oriented viewpoint, which regards the people as the most important existence, can we build a society that truly gives the working people the right to work.

The superiority of socialism of our own style, which provides stable jobs for the people, comes from the chuche-oriented view of the people.

Our people are fully convinced that, thanks to our party's chuche idea, our country's socialism of our own style is the most superior, enabling us to enjoy stability free from worry about jobs. In addition, our people are overwhelmed with resolutions to glorify the most superior socialism of our own style, which embodies the chuche idea, with their creative labor.

The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has profoundly elucidated the superiority of socialism of our own style and its ideological basis from the labor perspective. This is of utmost significance in consolidating and developing the scientific theory on socialism and communism.

Only when all the working people try to more fully learn and embody the party's ideological theory on the superiority of socialist labor can we bring our people's creative labor to its full potential. Along with this, the country's independent economic foundation will be consolidated, and the people's standard of living will be raised.

Collectivist Economic Management Method Discussed

SK1312061391 Pyongyang MINJU CHOSON in Korean 29 Nov 91 P2

[Article by Kim Yong-sok: "Collectivistic Method Is Basic Management Method of Socialist Economy"]

[Text] The economic management method is an important question which comes to the fore in connection with economic management theory and practice. Socialist economy can develop in compliance with people's desire and demand only when an appropriate economic management method is used.

Today, our economy is developing continuously, no matter what happens to the world economy. This is because our economy is managed and operated in conformity with the collectivist nature of socialist society.

Dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: All economic management methods used in socialist economic management must be collectivist methods. In other words, socialist economic management must be conducted on the basis of collectivism and must contribute to putting collectivism into practice.

Adhering to a collectivist method in economic management is an important question linked to the future of socialist economic system. Only when a collectivist method is used to manage and operate the economy can the creativity of the people, who are directly in charge of production and construction, be fully mobilized and the economy be developed rapidly in conformity with the characteristics of socialist society.

The collectivist method, which is a basic management method of socialist economy, is one to organize uniformly the economic life of groups and individual working people and to embody the relations of comradely unity and cooperation in economic activities.

Socialist society is a collectivist society. Accordingly, economic management should also be conducted through a collectivist method. Collectivism demands that the interests of all members of groups be defended, while considering the interest of groups first and fulfilling groups' interest thoroughly. Therefore, what is supposed to be used in the socialist society—the one which is based on collectivism—is an economic management method to properly meet individuals' demands on the basis of meeting the demands of the society and groups first and to fully mobilize the creativity of all of those who belong to groups on the basis of unity and cooperation among social groups and on the basis of consolidating them. Only through such a collectivist method can socialist economy be managed and operated in compliance with the desire and interest of the people, who are the masters of the society and who are in charge of economic development, and can the economy be developed rapidly.

We can never develop economy in compliance with people's desire and demand and can never defend the socialist economic system if any method, which is based on individualism and which only promotes egoism, is used.

Therefore, socialist economy must be managed and operated by a collectivist method which is benefits completely the inherent characteristic of socialist society.

What is important in managing and operating the socialist economy through a collectivist method is to invariably maintain the principle of placing the main emphasis on the political method and correctly combining it with the economic and technological method and with the administrative and organizational method. The political method, the economic and technological method, and the administrative and organizational method are all closely linked with one another and they are used systematically in the socialist economic management. Only by placing the main emphasis on the political method can masses' voluntary enthusiasm and their creative zeal be fully mobilized in the socialist economic management and can this method become fruitful and only when it is married with the economic and technological method and with the administrative and organizational method.

Main emphasis must be placed on the political method in conducting socialist economic management.

The political method in socialist economic management is to mobilize producers' revolutionary zeal and creative positiveness and organize them into accomplishing economic tasks. The political method is most functional in applying the principle of collectivism. In socialist economic management, economic management methods can befit the collectivist nature of the socialist society and can be most effectively used only when producers' political and ideological awareness are ceaselessly enhanced and their unity and cooperation are consolidated.

Placing the main emphasis on political method in economic management means to give priority to political work over economic organizational work. Carrying out political propaganda and economic agitation to make producers fully aware of the objective of given economic tasks and their significance and to show them the way to accomplish them are the method which the economic guidance functionaries should use to mobilize masses' ideas and to vigorously encourage them to accomplish economic tasks in organizing the economic work through the indoctrination of people—the first process they should go through in their work. The economic guidance functionaries should go to the producers and share joys and sorrows with them according to the demand of the political method. They should teach and help their subordinates politically, economically, and technologically. Only then can producers' revolutionary zeal and creative positiveness be mobilized and upsurges be continuously effected in production and construction.

Successfully solving the problems of economic management through a mass movement is an important requirement in using the political method. A vigorous mass movement under the leadership of the party is important to display the spirit of collectivism among the masses of producers and to make economic management the work of the masses. The masses of people who are the masters of economic management and who are directly in charge of production and construction should highly display the spirit of collectivism by being fully aware that they are the masters of economic management and by helping and leading one another. The spirit of successfully accomplishing given economic tasks can be even more fully displayed among the working people only by vigorously waging a mass movement initiated and led by the party.

Thus, only by placing the main emphasis on the political method can the economy be managed and operated according to the collectivist nature of socialist society and the problems of economic construction be successfully solved.

Socialist economic management should also be conducted through the economic and technological method.

The course of the management and operation of the socialist economy is the course of applying objective economic rules and fulfilling scientific and technological requirements in production. In this connection, economic and technological work is necessary to apply objective economic rules and fulfill scientific and technological requirements in production, and the economic and technological method is the method to carry out that economic and technological work scientifically and rationally.

The economic and technological method requires the planning of management activities and their systematization. Only by planning economic organs' and enterprises' management activities in compliance with the established people's economic plan of the state can the economy be developed according to the common interest of the society, and expanded socialist reproduction become possible by ensuring the linkage between the units of production.

Intensifying scientific and technological guidance over production is one of the most important elements of the economic and technological method. Scientific and technological guidance over production is to fulfill the scientific and technological requirements of production in production planning and preparation. Production course is a technological process in modern large-scale socialist economy. Therefore, scientific and technological guidance should be offered over production. Only then can the large-scale modern socialist economy be managed, operated, and developed rapidly.

In addition, material incentives should be correctly offered in using the economic and technological method. Material incentives should be offered within the boundary of economic rules and economic dimensions befitting the transitional nature of socialist society. How to observe this principle can either effectively help the application of the principle of collectivism or be abused to promote capitalist elements. Therefore, material incentives must be correctly offered as an economic means to help the application of the principle of collectivism in socialist society.

It is the principle of giving material incentive in socialist society to give greater evaluations to those production groups and workers that have worked more for the state and society and have made greater contributions. This is not against the principle of collectivism under which the interest of groups and the interest of individuals are equally considered. This is rather a condition to even more properly apply the principle of collectivism. Accordingly, material incentives are one of the important factors in using the economic and technological method and is a need to apply the principle of collectivism in economic management.

In addition, the administrative and organizational method should be adequately used in socialist economic management.

The administrative and organizational method is one to use administrative means and method to organize and ensure people's independent and creative activities. Economic organs, enterprises, and those who belong to these organs and enterprises must be mobilized through administrative means and order to properly manage and operate the socialist economy. The scale of socialist economy is huge and the relationship between its infrastructures has become complicated. Therefore, it is particularly important to correctly organize and deal with the activities of all of those who belong to economic organs and enterprises. Only by properly organizing the activities of all of those who participate in economic activities can the units of central and local administrative and economic organs and enterprises and the members who belong to these organs and enterprises fulfill their responsibilities at the guardposts to which they are assigned.

A clear line must be drawn between responsibility and authority and state laws, rules, regulations, operational specifics, and working guidance should be correctly established and, based on this, economic activities should be regulated and controlled to correctly use the administrative organizational method in economic management. State laws, rules, regulations, operational specifics, and working guidance are most important administrative organizational means. Accordingly, successful economic management is possible only when these means are improved and perfected and when they are strictly observed according to the demand of the socialist economic management system and according to the demand of reality in development.

Administrative decisions and directives are important means to systematically deal with functionaries and working people. In an administrative viewpoint, the economic management, which is to command people's economic activities, is one for giving necessary order and directives on time and for accurate adjustment and control. Only by establishing a system to give administrative decision and directives on time, to implement them within given time without fail, and to report on this, can the administrative command system be perfectly established and the centralized guidance of state be properly observed.

Thus, the administrative organizational method is an important method which makes it possible to correctly manage and operate the socialist economy through the establishment of perfect work system and discipline at central administrative and economic guidance organs and at local administrative and economic guidance organs and enterprises and through the correct adjustment and control of all economic activities.

In conclusion, the political method, the economic and technological method, and the administrative organizational method are important economic management methods which function in a close linkage with one another in socialist economic management. Thus, only when these methods are uniformly applied perfectly based on the method of collectivism can the socialist economy be correctly managed and operated and its superiority be highly displayed.

As the economy continuously develops rapidly and as the relationship between the domains become even more complicated and diverse, reality today urges more urgently than ever to conduct the economic management through the collectivist method.

The functionaries of state economic organs should more vigorously struggle to apply the collectivist method in economic management by using specific methods. Economic guidance functionaries should correctly establish a general management method in their work and should ensure that all the systematic steps—planning, organizing, evaluation, adjustment, and control—are all conducted in a scientific manner.

The functionaries of state economic organs should arm themselves with the party's economic management method, the correctness and vitality of which have been fully disclosed in the practice of the economic management, and should thoroughly apply it in economic management. By so doing, they should accomplish given economic tasks on time and effect even greater upsurges in the socialist economic construction.

KCNA Reviews 13 Dec Pyongyang Press

SK1312053791 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0439 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Press review]

[Text] Pyongyang December 13 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN today prints a message of greetings of Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK], to Comrade Sam Nujoma upon his reelection as president of the South-West Africa People's Organization.

Dailies carry an account of a scientific seminar held in Pyongyang to mark the 30th anniversary of the Taean work system created by the great leader President Kim Il-song.

Appearing in NODONG SINMUN is a letter which Chong Chun-sil, director of the Commercial Management Office, Chonchon County, Chagang Province, presented to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

It also prints messages of greetings of the C.C., the WPK to Dawda Kairaba Jawara upon his reelection as general secretary of the Gambian People's Progressive Party and Chris Hani upon his election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party.

Dailies inform the readers that the second-day session of the fifth inter-Korean high-level talks was held, the members of the North side's delegation saw round the Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd. and the South side's "National Assembly speaker" gave a dinner for the North side's delegation.

Econews of papers include a report about brisk preparations for the next year's farming in co-op farms.

Comrade Yang Shangkun, president of the People's Republic of China and first vice-chairman of the Military Commission of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, met Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea and minister of People's Armed Forces, according to NODONG SINMUN.

Conveyed in the paper is an account of a meeting celebrating the 20th anniversary of the founding of the Pyongyang sports school.

Papers inform the readers that our proposal for reunification through confederation has been actively supported and the withdrawal of the U.S. troops from South Korea strongly demanded in foreign countries.

NODONG SINMUN conveys foreign public voices lauding the advantages of our socialist system under the title "Everything of Society Serves Popular Masses in Korea".

The paper reports that Comrade Jiang Zemin made a speech at a round-table conversation marking the Xian event, the Libyan head of state denounced the anti-Libya moves of the United States and its allies, the Jordanian king demanded the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied territories, the Afghan president referred to a way of solution to the internal disputes and the first congress of the South West Africa People's Organisation was held.

Papers inform the readers that the chairman of the Japan Social- Democratic Party urged the government to apologize and compensate for the past aggression and the Singaporean minister of information and art denounced Japan for refusing to apologize for its criminal acts committed in the past.

Papers convey economic news from Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, Pakistan, Malaysia and India.

NODONG SINMUN comes out with an article entitled "'Development of Nuclear Weapons' Claimed by the U.S. Imperialists and U.S. Munition Monopolies."

South Korea

Fifth Round of N-S Ministerial Talks Concludes

Day Two of Talks Reviewed

SK1312034791 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 13 Dec 91 p 1

[Text] South and North Korea struck a historic accord on political reconciliation, military nonaggression, personnel exchange and economic cooperation through hard negotiations yesterday in a big stride toward peaceful co-existence and eventual reunification.

The agreement, in the form of the first government document ever written by the two parts of the Korean peninsula, is expected to end four decades of hostility, once peaked with a hot war, and bring about bona fide partnership and practical endeavors for mutual prosperity.

Prime Minister Chong Won-sik of the South and Yon Hyong-muk of the North will sign the document in a hastily-scheduled plenary session of their delegations at 9 a.m. today, highly-placed government sources said.

The delegates will visit Chongwadae to meet President No Tae-u immediately after the signing ceremony. No is most likely to renew his proposal for a summit talk with his North Korean counterpart Kim Il-song. The North Korean delegation will then return home.

The nuclear issue, which consumed most part of Wednesday's prime ministers' talks, will be left to the hands of six negotiators, three from each side, who produced the nonaggression agreement. They will meet again at Panmunjom soon.

In a joint statement at the end of the final session today, the two prime ministers will commission the negotiators with full power to handle the nuclear matter. The North will thus be given a chance to turn around from its long refusal of international inspection of its nuclear facilities without losing its face.

They will discuss the South's "declaration for a nonnuclear Korea" and the North's "declaration for denuclearization of the Korean peninsula" at the border village.

Their positions contain minor, but delicately significant differences with Pyongyang requiring the removal of the U.S. nuclear umbrella for South Korea while the South demanding an immediate on-site inspection of the North's nuclear installations.

A South Korean negotiator, who asked not to be named, viewed that the North could come to any agreement on the nuclear problem to avoid wide-spread international criticism against its nuclear development program which puts Pyongyang under growing isolation from the international community.

Choe U-chin, roving ambassador and one of the three Northern negotiators, told THE KOREA TIMES, "We can settle the nuclear question with more ease because we have prepared a broad framework for the new inter-Korean relationship. It will not take long to do so if we exert the spirit of mutuality."

Coming out of the closed-door meeting of six negotiators yesterday afternoon, Yi Tong-pok, spokesman for the Southern delegation, told reporters that the two sides "completely removed all the obstacles" in the way to establishing the agreement on political and military thaw and cooperation.

He would not disclose specific terms of the agreement.

But an informed source said that the North Koreans, thirsty for foreign aid for its economic bailout, conceded to the South's long-held demand for mutual confidence-building measures to be taken prior to slashes in arms and armed forces. They also accepted to change the 38-year-old Armistice Agreement into a permanent peace regime without the U.S. involvement.

Vice Economic Planning Minister Kang Hyon-ok, one of the South's seven delegates to the plenary session, said that inter-Korean trade volume, which Seoul regards as an internal deals and levies no tariffs, would reach some $2 billion yearly if the North adopts the Southern call for direct shipment.

The Southern negotiators, for their part, made a compromise to delete a clause that the new reconciliation agreement would not affect treaties and pacts which Seoul and Pyongyang have respectively concluded with foreign countries, according to the source. The South had adhered to the provision so strongly to prevent arguments over its mutual defense treaty with the United States, among other reasons.

Under the "Agreement on Reconciliation, Nonaggression, and Exchange and Cooperation between the South and the North," Seoul and Pyongyang will set up permanent liaison offices at Panmunjom within two months after they exchange instruments of ratification.

The liaison offices will function like embassies, handling all the questions involving the two parties for their "solution through peaceful means."

The agreement also provides for the organization of three subcommittees within the framework of the prime ministers' talks no later than one month after it takes effect. The political, military, exchange and cooperation subcommittees will chart out detailed steps to ensure implementation and observance of the bilateral pact.

Cooperation, Exchange Agreement Signed

SK1312011991 Seoul YONHAP in English 0055 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (YONHAP)—South and North Korea signed an agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, cooperation and exchange Friday, ending more than four decades of hostilities.

Prime Ministers Chong Won-sik of the South and Yon Hyong-muk of the North signed the document in Seoul at the hotel where the two leaders held the fifth round of inter-Korean high-level talks that began in September last year.

The agreement, the first official document since Korea's division 46 years ago, lists 25 articles on guaranteeing reconciliation, non-aggression, cooperation and exchange. It will take effect when both sides exchange the accords following ratification by their parliaments and signature by their presidents.

The two sides presented their positions on nuclear issues, but no official agreement was produced in this section.

The agreement is divided into a preamble and sections titled South-North Reconciliation, South-North Non-aggression, South-North Exchanges and Cooperation, and Amendments and Effectuation.

Chief points of the agreement include replacement of the Korean Armistice of 1953 with a state of peace.

Article 5, in the section titled Reconciliation, says: "Both parties shall endeavor together to transform the present armistice regime into a firm state of peace between the South and the North and shall abide by the present military armistice agreement (of July 27, 1953) until such time as such a state of peace has taken hold."

North Korea has long insisted that, since South Korea is not a signatory to the cease-fire, such replacement must be settled between it and the United States.

North Korea, in a major compromise, included the words "between the South and the North" in the agreement, thereby officially recognizing South Korea as the negotiation partner in this process.

South Korea, in turn, made major revisions to its non-aggression proposals, including steps demanded by the North to carry out military confidence building and arms reduction simultaneously.

It removed parts on exchanging observation teams at military exercises to ensure non-aggression and resident monitoring teams for military confidence building measures.

North Korea claimed such opening is limited in degree in the military sector and "is not appealing."

The compromise Article 12 says: "(The South-North joint military committee) shall discuss and carry out steps to build military confidence and realize arms reductions, including the mutual notification and control of major movements of military units and major military exercises."

It calls for "peaceful utilization of the demilitarized zone, exchanges of military personnel and information, phased reductions in armaments including the elimination of weapons of mass destruction and surprise attack capabilities, and verifications thereof."

South Korea completely dropped its article under amendments that said the agreement would not affect other bilateral or multilateral treaties each party had signed.

North Korea, insisting that "there can be no treaty and agreement more important (to Korea) than this agreement," said the bilateral accord must take first priority.

Instead of mutual access to and exchange of radio and television broadcasts, which was opposed by North Korea, the compromise version calls for "exchanges and cooperation in diverse fields, including science, technology, education, literature, the arts, health, sports, the environment and publishing and journalism, including newspapers, radio, television and publications in general."

The two sides added an article on international-level cooperation in which they pledge to "cooperate on the international stage in the economic, cultural and various other fields and carry out joint business undertakings abroad."

South and North Korea will establish liaison offices in the truce village of Panmunjom within three months of the agreement going into effect.

They will reconnect rail and road links severed by Korea's division and open South-North land, sea and air routes. South Korea's proposal to initially reconnect the Seoul-Shinuiju Railroad and Munsan-Kaesong Highway was left out of the final agreement.

The two Koreas will form joint military and economic exchanges and cooperation committees within three months and political, military, exchanges and cooperation subcommittees within one month of the agreement's effective date.

The agreement is to take effect upon ratification by both parliaments and an exchange of copies, which it is hoped will take place during the sixth prime ministerial talks in Pyongyang on Feb. 18-21.

Military authorities will install a telephone hotline to prevent accidental armed clashes and avoid their escalation, according to the agreement.

Both sides promise to guarantee free inter-Korean travel and contacts between residents, free correspondence, reunions and visits for separated families from the 1950-1953 Korean war, and to take measures to resolve other humanitarian issues, it says.

The two Koreas will establish and link facilities for cross-border postal and telecommunications services while guaranteeing their confidentiality.

To lay grounds for South-North reconciliation, the two parties agreed to respect each other's political and social system, not interfere in internal affairs, not slander or vilify the other side, and not attempt in any manner to sabotage or subvert the other.

North Premier's 13 Dec 'Closing Remarks'

SK1312033491 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 0125 GMT 13 Dec 91

["Closing remarks" by Yon Hyong-muk, head of the North side's delegation to North-South high-level talks and DPRK premier, after fifth round of talks held in Seoul on morning of 13 December—live]

[Text] Mr. Prime Minister Chong Won-sik, and delegates:

The fifth North-South high-level talks, which were held amid great expectations and interest at home and abroad, are to close soon after having brought about excellent results.

At the talks this time, we have signed the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South, and agreed to hold delegates' contacts within this year to discuss the urgent proposals from two sides on the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula.

This is the most precious success attained for the first time between the authorities of the North and the South since the 4 July joint statement was published in 1972.

Today, by signing the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South, we opened bright prospects for high-level talks. Thus, we can now actively carry out dialogue widely in many fields.

Furthermore, based on today's achievement, we have opened a broad road for eliminating political and military confrontation between the North and the South, which was our original mission, for realizing multilateral cooperation and exchange.

The agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange, which we have reached, is a document with programmatic significance which embodies the principle of national reunification for independence, peaceful reunification, and great national unity which was expounded in the 4 July joint statement. Thus, we can take a great step forward along the road of peace, detente, and reunification.

The success of the fifth talks this time will give great joy to all fellow countrymen, and will evoke great repercussions from the good people of the world who want peace and reunification on the Korean peninsula.

However, we must not be satisfied with this. I think that the ardent desire of our fellow countrymen, who aspire to reunification and peace, should be realized at an early date.

Our talks should not drag nor should they be suspended. Based on the foundation laid and on the pillars set up this time, we should build an excellent palace of peace and reconciliation by making the roof and building the walls. By making all efforts, we should advance the talks more rapidly, and should expeditiously meet the long-cherished desire of 70 million fellow countrymen without fail.

By successfully pushing ahead with the delegates' contacts in connection with the nuclear issue, we should reach an agreement on another historic joint document on denuclearization for making the land of our country a genuine nuclear-free, peace zone.

At the same time, the two sides should not carry out acts which may spoil the precious success of the current talks. Proceeding from this spirit, the Team Spirit joint military exercise next year should be prudently reviewed.

I would like to put emphasis on the important significance of the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange between the North and the South and on the delegates' contacts for discussion of the nuclear issue, as well as on the sense of mutual responsibility which has been bestowed more heavily on us. I sincerely hope that the two sides strive to settle at an early date procedures required for effectuation of provisions so that subcommittees can be formed as prescribed in the agreement and that all agreed issues can be put into practice promptly.

Thank you.

Chong Won-sik's Closing Remarks

SK1312043691 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 0130 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Closing remarks by ROK Prime Minister Chong Won-sik at the end of the fifth round of North-South high-level talks at the Sheraton Walker-Hill Hotel in Seoul—live]

[Text] Prime Minister Yon Hyong-muk and delegates:

We have just adopted an agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and exchanges and cooperation between the South and North.

Concurring that there must be no nuclear weapons in this land, we have agreed on holding contacts between the delegates before the end of December at Panmunjom to discuss the nuclear issue.

A great change of historical proportions has indeed begun in our country.

All of our 70 million fellow countrymen who have been dying for this moment are now watching us with emotion.

It is truly significant that after twists and turns, the South and North have been able to bring about such a wonderful fruit after 46 years since the country was divided into the South and North. Since the South-North high-level talks began 15 months ago, I am honored to have been one of the participants in this enterprise.

The stream of reconciliation and cooperation flowing across the globe has now reached this land.

We, who were the people of the world's only divided country at a time when the mistrust and confrontation of past eras are being resolved one after another, have come to have a self-confidence that we can overcome the division on our own and build a glorious unified country on our own, while looking forward to a new era of the 21st century. We have made our stately appearance in the world.

We have made one big step forward in order for peace to break out in this land by pooling our national force and resourcefulness and toward realizing a unified country where the freedom, human rights, and happiness are guaranteed.

By bringing an end to the history of confrontation and by fashioning a framework that enables us to cope with the newly establishing world order based on joint effort, the South and North can now play their role in contributing to defending national dignity and interest and to developing human society in step with the stream of global history.

Unquestionably, it is precisely out of this desire that 70 million of our fellow countrymen have been anxiously awaiting the birth of this agreement.

By producing a result that all the fellow countrymen have hoped for, we have given them hope and have confirmed more clearly than ever the fact that the South and North are of the same people and the same blood.

The South and North have thus laid the foundation for promoting peace and a peaceful reunification based on coexistence and co-prosperity, with mutual respect, and are now able to translate the desire of the 70 million people for reunification into action.

By firmly vowing that each would not invade the other, the South and North have removed the danger of the war of fratricide that has hung thickly over this land.

With this agreement signed today, we have now recovered the faith that we were essentially one and that we were of a single community, bringing an end to an era during which the people of the North and the South were not able to go to the other side or meet with each other for mutual visits and cooperation.

What is more, the South and North have now been able to revive our national tradition of mutual assistance and of filling each other's needs through firm national ties based on mutual exchanges and cooperation.

In this sense, I believe that this agreement signed today has brought an end to the era of confrontation and division and has opened the door to an era of cooperation and reunification.

However, I do not believe that we have fulfilled our mission. For this agreement to become a firm, unwavering promise of broadening the road leading to our national peace and reunification, we have a great deal of heavy tasks to fulfill.

We should enter a stage where each make an effort to earnestly put into practice reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchange so that the South and North can exchange the documents at the sixth round of the South-North high-level talks after going through the necessary procedures needed to make the agreement effective and adopt an agreement on forming and running the three subcommittees.

For today's agreement to become the starting point of ending the division, I would like to stress anew that although the agreement is of significance in itself, putting it into practice is far more important on the basis of our past experience.

We should redouble our effort to develop the South and North into a unified state before the end of the 20th century without fail by keeping alive the spirit of mutual concession and compromise.

At the same time, once again our side would like to stress the fact, as we have stressed on many occasions in the course of holding the talks, that this agreement should have no impact on treaties and agreements already concluded between the South and North, nor should they be allowed to.

I would like to remind you of the fact that our side put forward a proposal for adopting a joint agreement on the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula and on the need to put into practice the pilot inspection aimed at verifying the presence of nuclear weapons and whether nuclear development is under way in the South and North.

Our side's proposal is the most realistic and reasonable to resolve the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula, and I believe there is no reason for the North side to refuse to accept it.

Now that the South and North have vowed nonaggression, there is no reason to possess or develop nuclear weapons. The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula which has drawn the attention of all fellow countrymen and the world is an issue that should be settled without fail.

So, I hope the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula can be resolved at an early date in conformity with our side's proposal at the contacts between the delegates to be held soon at Panmunjom.

Delegates of the North side: A new era has just begun in our land.

Let us march forward toward the new day of reunification, putting behind the dark days of the past. And let us all begin making new efforts for our 70 million fellow countrymen and our children to live freely, humanely, affluently, and happily in a unified country.

In concluding, I extend heartfelt comforting words to the parties of the South and North who have made efforts day in and day out to bring this agreement to fruition.

You have indeed done a great job.

At the same time, I extend my gratitude to the 70 million fellow countrymen who have encouraged us so that this round of talks could produce good results.

This document signed today is a product of the 70 million fellow countrymen's sincere effort.

Delegates of the North side: We all now feel that the distance from Seoul to Pyongyang has been much shortened.

I bid you a safe journey on this short trip. Let us promise that we will gladly meet again in Pyongyang in February next year.

Completion of Ratification Process Planned

SK1312034091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0315 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—South and North Korea plan to complete the ratification process in time to exchange their agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, cooperation and exchange at the sixth inter-Korean prime ministers' talks in Pyongyang Feb. 18-21.

Both sides will hold separate contacts on nuclear issues this month at the truce village of Panmunjom, with each side represented by two delegates from the prime ministers' talks and three nuclear experts, officials said.

Seoul has indicated that it is willing to cancel next year's South Korea-U.S. joint military maneuver "Team Spirit" if there is progress in the nuclear negotiations, they said.

The next prime ministers talks will be just before the Team Spirit exercises, which are usually held from late February to March.

The bilateral agreement was signed here Friday morning by Prime Ministers Chong Won-sik of the South and Yon Hyong-muk of the North at the conclusion of the fifth inter-Korean high-level talks, which opened Tuesday. The prime ministers have been meeting since September last year.

Both sides hailed the agreement as an historic event that will end the decades of hostilities and confrontation enduring since Korea's division in 1945.

The agreement takes effect as soon as the two parliaments ratify and exchange it. Officials said the process will be completed at the next round of talks in Pyongyang.

Seoul and Pyongyang both conceded that there should be no nuclear weapons on the Korean peninsula and are to meet at Panmunjom this month to discuss the matter, according to the officials.

They presented separate proposals for denuclearization of Korea and did not produce any agreement on the issue in this round of talks.

South Korea, while demanding the North forsake reprocessing and enrichment facilities, proposed simultaneous trial inspection of military sites, including U.S. bases in the South, designated by the other side.

Details of these demands and proposals will most likely be discussed in the Panmunjom contact, the officials said.

"South and North Korea have no reason to possess or develop nuclear weapons when they pledge nonaggression," South Korean Prime Minister Chong said in his closing remarks.

"The nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula must be solved," he said.

"South and North Korea should negotiate yet another historic agreement on denuclearization of the Korean peninsula," Yon said in his ending remarks.

"The Team Spirit exercises must be carefully reconsidered so as not to undermine the results of this round of talks," he said.

North's Yon Hyong-muk on Talks, Reunification

SK1312120891 Seoul CHUNGANG ILBO in Korean 13 Dec 91 p 5

["Exclusive interview" with Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the DPRK Administration Council, by reporter Pak Pyong-sok on 12 December; place not given]

[Text] Yon Hyong-muk, premier of the North Korean Administration Council, repeatedly stressed that the final agreement on North-South nonaggression is "historic."

Premier Yon, on a visit to Seoul to attend the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks, in an exclusive interview with CHUNGANG ILBO right after the agreement on North-South nonaggression was reached on the evening of 12 December, predicted that "if such a pace continues, reunification will be possible by 1995."

As for a date for North-South summit talks, Premier Yon said that "it is a matter for the heads of state to decide."

The following are the questions and answers with Premier Yon:

[Pak] What is your impression of the great compromise and its meaning?

[Yon] It is very good. The foundation of national reunification, which the 70 million people earnestly have wanted, has been laid.

Really, historic draft agreements have been reached in the national history of reunification. The people in the North and the South will be greatly pleased at the news.

[Pak] What is the motive power for reaching the agreement?

[Yon] Both the North side and the South side made mutual concessions.

Under the spirit of dissipating misunderstanding and distrust and to achieve peaceful reunification early, the sincere discussions of both sides' delegates bore fruit.

[Pak] What was the most difficult issue in the talks?

[Yon] It was the stipulations on confidence-building between the North and the South. Both sides made mutual concessions, reaching an agreement.

[Pak] An agreement in principle on the nuclear issue was reached—

[Yon] We will further discuss this. A separate commission will specifically discuss this issue.

[Pak] What is the prospect for a specific resolution on the nuclear issue?

[Yon] This issue will be resolved easily. Because the United States plans to withdraw nuclear weapons from the South and because the South and the North hope for denuclearization, fruit will be borne.

[Pak] When do you think reunification will be possible?

[Yon] Reunification should be achieved by 1995. Reunification should not be dragged out. Even though 40 years have passed, the talks have borne such fruit over a year's time. If such a pace continues, reunification will be possible by 1995, I think.

[Pak] President No Tae-u already proposed summit talks. President Kim Il-song said that North-South summit talks will be possible if the North-South high-level talks bear fruit. Considerable successes have been made in the talks this time. When do you think summit talks will be held?

[Yon] This is the matter for the heads of state to decide. (He repeated it two times).

[Pak] What do you want to say to the South side's people?

[Yon] Such achievements should be protected and not allowed to collapse. Neither side should incite the other. Team Spirit should not be held. The people who have visited the North should be released.

Chong Won-sik Views Outcome of N-S Talks

SK1312144591 Seoul KBS-1 Television Network in Korean 1200 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Interview with Chong Won-sik, ROK prime minister, by KBS anchorman Pak Tae-sok on 13 December—recorded]

[Text] [Pak] How are you?

[Chong] How are you?

[Pak] I remember that at the beginning of the talks you, Prime Minister, pledged to open a chapter for peace and reunification.

[Chong] Yes, I did.

[Pak] What is your present impression as a man playing a leading role in reaching the North-South agreement.

[Chong] As has already been reported, the agreement on reconciliation, nonaggression, and cooperation and exchanges, which is composed of four chapters consisting of a preamble and 25 articles, has been reached and signed today. In a word, my impression of this is beyond any expression but that of emotion.

Because the entire fellow countrymen's aspiration for peace and their will for reunification reached heaven, the agreement has been reached, I think. In addition, because the president has a far-sighted plan for the future and backs up the talks with a strong will, today's agreement has been reached.

However, practice will be important in the future. With the spirit of looking before one leaps, I will do my utmost to guarantee the practice of the agreement each step of the way.

[Pak] Judging from reactions of foreign countries as well as our people, it seems that they did not expect the North and the South to reach the agreement so quickly. Did you predict the agreement, and what is the background for making such rapid progress?

[Chong] People may think that the North-South agreement has been unexpectedly and rapidly reached, and that this is an abrupt result. As a matter of fact, basic agreements were reached one year and three months after the North-South talks began.

Throughout this period, five rounds of the high-level talks have been held. Through behind-the-scenes negotiations, delegates' contacts, and dozens of negotiations, today's agreement was reached. Thus, the agreement has not been reached rapidly and abruptly, I think. The result of accumulated negotiations, which have been conducted with the spirit of laying bricks one by one, has been revealed in the successful signing of today's agreement, I think.

[Pak] Now, I cannot but believe that the concern is focused on the North-South summit talks. What do you think of the possibility of holding summit talks, and when do you think summit talks will be held?

[Chong] Let me see. Many people have concerns over the North-South summit talks. The agreement has been signed. Thus, if it is put into practice, North-South reconciliation and exchanges will be realized. In addition, nonaggression will be put into practice. If reconciliation is reached through such processes, the people will naturally visit each other. Therefore, I do not think that it is impossible for the heads of the North and the South to hold talks.

However, the fifth round of the North-South high-level talks were not held for the purpose of holding summit talks. Thus, I cannot but say that it is difficult to predict the possibility of holding summit talks.

[Pak] I think that there were many difficulties, ranging from preparing for the texts of agreement to signing them. What was the greatest difficulty?

[Chong] Basically, there has been a long division between the North and the South. Confrontation has endured, and trust has not been built up at all. Even though contacts have been held on several occasions, considerable distrust still exists. For this reason, both sides doubt each other, even when they propose something or when they say something. Thus, there have been many difficulties in resolving such issues.

Specifically speaking, both sides reached agreement on the principle of nonaggression. Our side stated the position that nonaggression should clearly be put into practice without fail and should clearly be expressed. However, the North side claimed that the declaration was of nonaggression. We could not believe this claim of the North side. Thus, the settlement of this issue was very difficult, as I remember.

[Pak] Some people hastily expect that reunification can be achieved soon. What do you predict of North-South relations?

[Chong] It can be said that the North-South relations have taken a first step toward reconciliation. Even though there is the saying that a good beginning is something half done, the road that we should prudently walk, step by step, is still distant. Thus, I cannot help saying that the expectation of a hasty reunification is incorrect.

[Pak] Thank you for the interview. Thank you.

[Chong] Thank you.

President No Tae-u Receives Yon Hyong-muk 13 Dec

No Proposes Summit

SK1312035391 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0300 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] President No Tae-u this morning received North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk at Chongwadae and exchanged views on overall North-South relations.

The North side's delegation to the North-South high-level talks arrived at the presidential residence at 1100. Before meeting with the delegation, President No Tae-u met separately with Premier Yon Hyong-muk and said he welcomes the signing of the agreement between the North and the South and hopes the fruition of the current talks will work as a great turning point in advancing toward reunification, the nation's long-cherished desire.

It has been learned that at the meeting, President No Tae-u conveyed our side's position that since the basic framework for peace is provided, the pending problems can be solved in summit talks between the highest persons in authority in the North and the South.

Present at President No Tae-u's meeting with North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk were Choe Pong-chun, responsible liaison officer from the North side, and Yi Hyon, stenographer. From our side, Prime Minister Chong Won-sik and Kim Chong-hwi, presidential assistant for diplomatic and security affairs, were on hand.

After meeting separately with Premier Yon Hyong-muk, President No Tae-u received the delegates of the North and the South jointly and congratulated both sides on the new era opened by them after 46 years of division in North-South relations.

Stresses Need for Nuclear Accord

SK1312091891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0855 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (YONHAP)—South Korean President No Tae-u told North Korean Premier Yon Hyong-muk Friday that he hoped Seoul and Pyongyang would reach complete agreement on nuclear issues this year and that a summit with President Kim Il-song could be held at an early date.

"It is very regrettable that the two sides failed to reach a full agreement on the nuclear problem," presidential aides quoted No as telling Yon.

During their just-ended prime ministerial talks, which produced a historic agreement on non-aggression, the two sides shared the view that nuclear weapons should not exist on the Korean peninsula but failed [to] reach agreement on the issue.

They agreed to open a separate dialogue on the problem this month.

No told Yon a nuclear-free Korea should be realized by the new year "as the matter is not only crucial to the survival of the Korean people but is of keen interest to the international community."

No held his exclusive talks with Yon before hosting lunch for the South and North Korean delegates to the fifth inter-Korean high-level talks at his official residence of Chongwadae.

The chief executive asked the northern premier to convey his hope for an early summit meeting to President Kim.

Yon said he would do this after he returned to Pyongyang.

With the progress of the prime ministers' talks and No's message, the first ever inter-Korean summit is expected early next year, according to a government official.

A senior government official said South Korea's position was "the sooner the better" because summit talks were indispensable for the development of bilateral relations.

He said he expected a summit after the sixth prime ministers' talks in Pyongyang in mid-February.

No stressed that realizing reunification, the long-cherished aspiration of the Korean people, was an important task that was directly linked to the fate of the nation and urged the two sides to faithfully put the contents of the agreement into practice so as to accomplish reunification.

The president said he was happy that the agreement confirmed the prevention of a recurrence of war on the Korean peninsula, and that the South and the North had the same recognition.

On exchanges and cooperation, No emphasized that the reunion of dispersed families should be realized preferentially.

"Humanitarian problems should be resolved before realizing political exchanges," he said.

Yon said he believed reunification based on the North's Koryo confederation system was realistic and reasonable.

"I fully sympathize with the view that the problems of the Korean nation should be resolved by the Korean people and that problems should be settled peacefully and war rejected," Yon said.

Seoul To Continue Pressing North on Inspections

SK1312100291 Seoul YONHAP in English 0939 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (YONHAP)—South Korea will continue to urge North Korea to allow outside inspection of its nuclear facilities and sign the nuclear safeguards agreement, a government spokesman said Friday.

Yi Tong-pok, special advisor to the prime minister and concurrently spokesman for the South Korean delegation to the inter-Korean prime ministers' talks, said the South will try to induce Pyongyang's response to its proposal for a non-nuclear Korean peninsula.

South and North Korea have scheduled a meeting at the truce village of Panmunjom later this month to discuss the nuclear issue which was sidestepped at the fifth round of the prime ministers' talks.

On the first day of the talks, however, South Korean Prime Minister Chong Won-sik tabled a proposal, calling for simultaneous inspection of each other's nuclear facilities and military installations for nuclear weapons.

The question, however, was shelved when the North countered it with its own proposal seeking for the removal of the so-called U.S. nuclear umbrella from the South. The South has rejected North Korea's similar demand in the past.

"It appeared that North Korea was not ready to make any response to our proposal," the spokesman told reporters. "It is our position, however, that we would like to finish our negotiations on the nuclear issue before the end of February when the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) convenes its Board of Governors meeting."

Asked whether there was any need for changing relevant parts of the nation's laws because of the just-concluded agreement with the North on reconciliation and nonaggression, Yi said there has not been any discussions on the subject within the government so far.

"The question could be discussed depending on the progress in the South-North relations," he said.

North Korea's spokesman, An Pyong-su, meanwhile, issued a brief statement prior to his departure for home, saying that North Korea highly appraises the agreement to convene a meeting to discuss the nuclear question later in December.

Ministries Consider Resolution in Support of Pact

SK1312082791 Seoul YONHAP in English 0802 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea is considering a parliamentary resolution of support rather than ratification of its historic agreement with North Korea on reconciliation, non-aggression, exchanges and cooperation, officials said Friday.

The preamble says South-North ties "constitute a special provisional relationship geared to unification," and that makes ratification, which applies only to treaties between countries, inappropriate, the officials said.

The Foreign, National Unification and Justice Ministries are leading government negotiations on specific measures to activate the agreement, they said.

In their first agreement since national division in 1945, the two Koreas pledge steps toward reconciliation, non-aggression and cross-border economic and cultural exchanges.

The agreement takes effect after the sides formally approve and exchange it. Seoul and Pyongyang are expected to complete the process when they meet for the sixth round of prime ministers' talks Feb. 18-21 in North Korea.

The government may report the agreement to the extraordinary session of the National Assembly that will convene during U.S. President George Bush's visit Jan. 5-7, and get final approval from President No Tae-u, one official said.

"Considering the significance of the agreement, it is desirable to take steps similar to a treaty even though it does not come under international regulations," this official said.

"Passage of a parliamentary resolution for approving the agreement, or government's submission of a motion to the National Assembly can be considered," he said.

Ruling, Opposition Parties Welcome N-S Accord

SK1312015691 Seoul YONHAP in English 0132 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (YONHAP)—Ruling and opposition party leaders welcomed the inter-Korean agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, cooperation and exchange Friday, calling it cause for jubilation.

"This is the greatest gift to the people (since 1945)," said Kim Yong-sam, executive chairman of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party. "This may not mean immediate national reunification, but it signals reunification and peace are coming toward us."

Opposition Democratic Party Co-Chairman Kim Tae-chung said it was cause for "the greatest jubilation of the people since Korea's liberation (from Japan)."

"We have begun for the first time to make a door of peace and reunification through the wall of division and confrontation," he said. "We hope for even more concrete results from the sixth and seventh prime ministers' talks."

South and North Korea on Friday signed an agreement on reconciliation, non-aggression, cooperation and exchange, the first official bilateral pact since the nation was divided 46 years ago.

Business Sources Comment on Results From Accord

Boost to Joint Ventures

SK1312032491 Seoul YONHAP in English 0247 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (YONHAP)—Inter-Korean joint ventures are expected to flourish with the signing Friday by the prime ministers of South and North Korea of a historic agreement on reconcilation, nonaggression, exchange and cooperation, business sources said.

South-North joint ventures, by combining the North's ample labor resources with the capital and technology of the South, would be a crucial area of inter-Korean economic cooperation in the future, they said.

Southern businesses, from conglomerates to small- and medium-sized companies, increased contacts with North Korean businessmen and officials recently to set up joint ventures or to commission North Korea to process semi-finished products.

The government has approved applications by South Korean businessmen to contact North Koreans in more than 100 cases this year, over half of them to pursue inter-Korean joint ventures or commission processing, they added.

Opens Avenue for Direct Trade

SK1312053091 Seoul YONHAP in English 0458 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (YONHAP)—The historic agreement signed by South and North Korea on Friday is expected to enhance economic exchange and cooperation between the two halves of Korea by opening the way for direct trade.

Two-way trade since the first deal in October 1988 totals 200 million U.S. dollars, of which 171.59 million dollars in trade occurred in the first 11 months of this year.

Inter-Korean trade, mostly indirect deals via agents in third countries, has increased sharply this year. Volume in the first 10 months was eight times that in the same period last year.

In addition, South-North Korean trade has become more complementary—such as cotton, raw silk and PVC [polyvinyl chloride] from North Korea in exchange for nylon and plastic products from South Korea.

Government officials say annual two-way trade could easily approach 7 billion dollars if the two sides open full-fledged direct deals in some 85 goods and materials.

The South could buy 890 million dollars worth of 30 items from the North and sell the North 5.88 billion dollars worth of 55 items, according to officials at the Economic Planning Board and the Trade and Industry Ministry.

Items the South might sell to the North range from farm produce such as tangerines to commodities such as toothbrushes and include automobiles, machinery, steel and metal products.

Prospects are also bright for sales of refrigerators and electronic appliances, textile products, footwear, chemical products and agricultural and fisheries items.

The north, rich in natural resources, could sell the south hot coil and other metal products, cement, minerals, agricultural and fisheries products and machinery.

Another area for economic cooperation helped by the agreement is participation in North Korean economic development programs, such as Mt. Kumgang (Mt. Diamond) project and creation of a special economic zone in the Tuman River basin.

North Korea needs foreign capital and technology to finance its development projects. It has reportedly selected 83 industrial projects for intensive development and plans to raise 57 percent of the financing, or 887 million dollars, abroad.

With progress in the prime ministers' talks, the South could give North Korea help from its own development experience for many of the projects.

For the special economic zone, North Korea was busy drawing on the support of the United Nations Development Program and the Governments of China, the Soviet union, Mongolia and Japan.

The South Korean Government has repeatedly hinted at its readiness to support North Korea's move to set up the special economic zone and North Korea has suggested it will let the South take part.

Kim Chong-u, North Korea's vice external economic affairs minister, has said that Pyongyang did not announce restrictions on investment in the Tuman River project and South Korea and its enterprises may hope for participation.

North Korea was preparing to promote economic cooperation with the South, but it was not the time to announce it, Kim told South Korean reporters during the inter-Korean prime ministers' talks in Pyongyang in October.

Kim said at that time that economic cooperation would be made in accordance with the progress of the prime ministers' talks.

Sports Minister Denies Ties With North Official

SK1212002991 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 12 Dec 91 p 2

[Text] Sports and Youth Minister Pak Chol-on drew attention by talking with a powerful North Korean official in a relatively familiar manner Tuesday.

Pak and Choe Pong-chun, the North's chief liaison official, whispered for some time during a dinner for the Northern delegates, giving the impression that they know each other well.

The friendly manner the two showed toward each other may be a sign proving that Pak had been to Pyongyang secretly, observers said.

Pak, considered one of the key architects of Seoul's Northern policy, had long been said to have made clandestine trips to Pyongyang.

Pak and Choe talked alone for about five minutes before the banquet started. The North's liaison official later called on Pak at Pak's table again and whispered something into Pak's ear.

One government official told reporters after the dinner he believes that Pak and Choe must have met several times before.

Minister Pak denied, however, that he has had any "special" relations with the North Korean official.

N-S Olympic Team Talks 'Impossible' This Year

SK1212033391 Seoul YONHAP in English 0221 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 12 (YONHAP)—Resumption of talks on sending a single Korean team to the Barcelona Olympics is impossible this year, a Sports and Youth Ministry official said Thursday.

The ministry has endeavored to resume the talks, suspended by North Korea in August, but the efforts were unrewarded with less than 20 days left in the year.

North Korea called off the fifth round of inter-Korean sports talks, scheduled for Aug. 17, following the defection of a member its national judo team to the South.

The North has turned down calls to resume the talks, demanding that Yi Chang-su, a lightweight bronze medalist at the 1989 World Judo Championships and silver medalist in the 1990 Beijing Asian Games, be returned.

"It is impossible to resume the talks this year because North Korea's attitude, stiffened after Yi's defection, has not changed and because of the tight political schedule at home, such as the preparations for the general elections," the official said.

As the talks cannot be held this year, chances for the two Koreas to send a single team to Barcelona next year are slim.

To participate as a single team in the Olympics, the two sides should complete all preparations for the formation of a team and submit preliminary entries to the organizing committee by March 25.

Even if the talks resumed in January, it would be impossible to select athletes in more than 20 sports in two months, experts say.

Inter-Korean sports talks are expected to grow more difficult as Sports and Youth Minister Pak Chol-on, who powerfully pursued inter-Korean dialogue in sports, is expected to leave office in a cabinet reshuffle expected around the new year.

Foreign Minister: Soviet Aid To Halt in Jan

SK1312062191 Seoul YONHAP in English 0602 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 13 (OANA-YONHAP)—Economic aid to the Soviet Union will proceed as planned for the rest of the year, but will be halted in January until the situation there is firmly settled, South Korea Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Friday.

Seoul had given 1 billion U.S. dollars in cash loans and part of an 800 million-dollar tied-loan to the Soviet Union this year as promised, Yi told the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Reunification Committee.

The tied-loan would proceed on schedule but the government might acquire additional payment guarantees from the Soviet side, depending on how the situation changes there, he said.

For the remaining 1.2 billion dollars in plant and consumer exports, a decision will have to wait until the official Soviet partner to the payment negotiations is determined, the foreign minister said.

Korea and the Soviet Union normalized relations in September last year and agreed on a 3 billion-dollar economic aid package the following January.

Ivan Silayev, chairman of the Interstate Economic Committee, signed the latest repayment guarantee after the failed coup in Moscow in August.

The apparent collapse of the central government led to calls here that Korea should receive new guarantees from whoever now represents the old Soviet Union.

Rep. Yi Su-in of the opposition Democratic party, pointing to the trade deficit in Moscow's favor, said the economic aid resulted in opening Korea's market to Soviet businesses.

"Our exports to the Soviet Union this year up to July totaled 230 million dollars, compared to 340 million dollars in imports," he reminded the foreign minister. "Doesn't this suggest that the economic aid did not open a new market, but resulted in opening our market to the Soviet Union?"

Planning Minister on Fulfilling 1990 Soviet Loans

SK1112044891 Seoul YONHAP in English 0430 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 11 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea will go ahead with this year's portion of tied-loans to the Soviet Union, but will seek additional "complementary measures" to ensure their repayment for the unfulfilled portion if the developments there cleared up.

Korea may withhold 1.2 billion U.S. dollars in consumer goods and plant exports due in 1992 and 1993 until the federal-republic arrangement becomes clearer in the Soviet Union, government officials said.

The Soviet Union was likely to be able to repay in full its foreign debts as soon as the political situation was settled between the federal and republic governments, and Korea would not halt its assistance to the Soviet Union at this point, the officials said.

The decision was made Wednesday in a meeting chaired by Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu, who is also economic planning minister. It capped widespread speculation here that Seoul, given a bad case of the jitters by the apparent collapse of the central government in Moscow, would withhold the remainder of the 3 billion dollars in economic assistance offered in January.

The Soviet Finance Ministry issued three repayment guarantees on the loans, and after the aborted coup in August, Ivan Silayev, chairman of the Interstate Economic Committee, signed additional guarantees.

One billion dollars in cash was lent in full in november, and shipments of 800 million dollars worth of consumer products are on their way as part of the tied-loans, to be completed by this year- end.

Unshipped portions will be shipped when the Soviet contracting party meets all the requirements, the officials said.

"When there are any changes affecting the federal government or the foreign economic bank, the loan negotiation channel, South Korea will immediately demand additional guarantees," one official said.

Seoul and Moscow were to begin talks on the remaining 1.2 billion dollars in loans this month, but the negotiations will have to wait until the republics work out a new union agreement, according to the officials.

Expects Moscow To Repay Debts

SK1112145091 Seoul YONHAP in English 1251 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] Seoul, Dec. 11 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Cho Kak-kyu said Wednesday he expected the Soviet Union, despite the breakaway movement, to abide by its liability to pay foreign debts, including billions of U.S. dollars of economic loans from South Korea.

Choe, also minister of the Economic Planning Board, told the National Assembly Economy-Science Committee that the Soviet central government has reaffirmed its guarantee for the repayment of debts.

"The central government and the 12 republics have promised to jointly pay foreign debts in a related memorandum of understanding on Oct. 28," he said.

The top economic policy maker said South Korea would push ahead with its plan to release this year's portion of tied loans to the Soviet Union. But, he added, the government will seek additional complementary measures should the need arises with the changes in the federal system of the Soviet Union and in the management of the Soviet foreign economic bank.

Choe said Korea might withhold 1.2 billion U.S. dollars in consumer goods and plant exports due in 1992 and 1993 until the federal-republic arrangement becomes clear in the Soviet Union.

Seoul is to loan 1.8 billion dollars in economic aid to Moscow, and has lent one billion dollars in cash and shipped 400 million dollars worth of consumer products on tied loans.

Intent of PRC Diplomatic Information Analyzed

SK1212015391 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 6 Dec 91 p 5

["TONG-A Square" column article by senior editorial writer Chong Chong-mun: "Chinese Information Circulated in Diplomatic Circles"]

[Text] A piece of information provided by a Chinese Government source has aroused interest in the diplomatic circles in Seoul. It has done so because the source is an expert on Korean peninsula affairs who is influential in China's policy-making toward the ROK. His appearance in Seoul was news in itself, and the information provided by him can never be neglected. The story he told is outlined as follows:

"It began when North Korean President Kim Il-song visited China in October and met with China's paramount leader Deng Xiaoping. At the meeting, Deng advised Kim Il-song to continue the North-South talks, to pay attention to Bush's decision to withdraw tactical nuclear weapons, and not to miss this opportunity. Upon returning to Pyongyang, the North Korean president convened a Political Bureau meeting, where it was decided that North Korea would continue the North-South premiers' talks and also sign the nuclear safeguards accord. This would take some time."

Details of the information could also be confirmed through the ROK Government. The government said that upon receiving a reply concerning the conclusion reached by North Korea, China decided to apply no more nuclear pressure on North Korea. According to a source, when North Korea says, "It will take a little time," it means that it would sign the accord when the United States withdraws its nuclear weapons from South Korea and when the nuclear weapons deployed to the U.S. forces here are inspected at the same time. It means North Korea's readiness to accept the conditional inspection of its nuclear facilities.

When one clearly knows itself and its enemy, one will win without fail. The notion that information is important in formulating national policies is all the more true in the international era. Therefore, information wars and counter-information wars are rampant. Also, lured by incorrect information from so-called experts, some people have had serious trouble on a few occasions. For example, some ROK personages were utterly bewildered when they realized that they could not meet with ranking officials of the U.S. administration, even though their intermediaries had said that appointments had been made for them.

I cannot jump to the conclusion that the information provided by the Chinese Government source in question is of that sort. This is because the Chinese source may have provided this information out of the unique good intentions of the Chinese people or the Chinese Government. In reality, during the 1988 Seoul Olympics, China showed good intentions, and the diplomatic gesture displayed when North and South Korea entered the United Nations was impressive. The Chinese foreign minister attended the Seoul Asian Pacific Economic Conference [APEC] meeting and paid a courtesy call on President No Tae-u. This was also a noteworthy diplomatic gesture on the part of China.

It is uncertain, however, whether there are other information channels that can confirm the information provided by the Chinese Government source. It does not seem so. For this reason, the timing merits attention. The information was circulated when foreign ministers from the United States, Japan, and China were visiting Seoul and a plan to force North Korea to abandon its nuclear weapons development program was being proposed by those countries and the Soviet Union. At that time, a hard-line policy in which military sanctions against North Korea were not ruled out was being discussed.

It was a very sensitive time auguring fresh tension on the Korean peninsula. At such a sensitive time, China said that it would not participate in the U.S.-Japan-Chinese-Soviet "alliance" and gave two reasons. One was: China disagrees with the West about its assessment of North Korea's capabilities to develop nuclear weapons, North Korea's political intent, and imminence North Korea's nuclear weapons development. Another reason was: They do not think it is good to drive North Korea into a corner by applying international pressure.

The information provided by the Chinese Government source gives us a basis in understanding such a position. If the Chinese Government spread the information based upon diplomatic calculation, it fulfilled its intended purpose to some extent. This is because North Korea has implied that it will sign the nuclear safeguards accord and accept International Atomic Energy Agency inspection of its nuclear facilities and materials. In this way, China was able to help North Korea, its one remaining ally.

If public opinion is created to the effect that "North Korea would soon accept nuclear inspection," it will weaken the ever-strong international pressure. Following the Chinese Government source's information, public opinion began to be heard in our society. Incidentally, the statement by the North Korean Foreign Ministry is also part of this. This may have led people to believe that the forests are moving.

However, forests do not move. Therefore, it is necessary to take the broad view. It has been predicted that North Korea will eventually sign the nuclear safeguards accord, and North Korea itself has insisted that it would. The problem, however, is that the nuclear safeguards accord is not the solution to North Korea's nuclear issue. It is a mere start, not an end. Various steps will have to be taken until North Korea abandons the development of nuclear weapons. During that period North Korea will be able to buy time to develop nuclear weapons.

For this reason, there is a question about China's perception. China does not want North Korea to develop nuclear weapons, either. Considering the possible Japanese reaction to North Korea's possession of nuclear weapons, China cannot remain generous toward North Korea's nuclear weapons and it is the only country that can influence North Korea. It would be different if China were to tell North Korea that it will suspend aid unless North Korea abandons its nuclear weapons development.

However, China has not taken that course. It may not have done so because it did not want to make North Korea, its only remaining ally, face a precarious situation. Moreover, since the CPSU collapsed, China has not been pleased with the United States, which intends to interfere in Chinese affairs. Also, there have been some awkward relations between the United States and China because of China's arms' exports, human rights abuses, and unfair trading practices. Therefore, the United States cannot easily move China.

For the same reason, China will not be flexible, either. China has not yet signed the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. As far as the nuclear issue is concerned, China has its own problems. The information provided by the Chinese Government source reminds us of many things. There will be a chance to ascertain the true intent of the information at the North-South Korean prime ministerial talks scheduled in Seoul. It will provide a chance to learn the true intent of China and North Korea, as well.

Burma

Pro-Democracy Rally Reportedly Held at Mandalay

BK1212115491 Hong Kong AFP in English 1126 GMT 12 Dec 91

[By Robert Birsel]

[Excerpt] Bangkok, Dec 12 (AFP)—[passage omitted] Rangoon University, where another pro-democracy rally was broken up by troops and riot police Wednesday [11 Dec], was being cleared and locked up Thursday morning, foreign residents said.

There were also unconfirmed reports that pro-democracy students staged a rally Tuesday at the university in Mandalay, Burma's second city and a traditional hotbed of anti-junta dissent.

"There are indications that something happened in Mandalay," one Rangoon resident said.

"The fact that all colleges in the country have been closed would also suggest that there were protests elsewhere," he added.

Scores of students are believed to have been arrested over the two days of protests as prison vans were seen repeatedly ferrying off demonstrators from the campus.

Military trucks, some full of soldiers, others carrying large spools of barbed wire for erecting barricades, were patrolling Rangoon's streets Thursday.

Troops in full combat gear, bayonets fixed on their automatic rifles, were stationed at key intersections in downtown Rangoon, residents said.

There were unconfirmed reports that thousands of reinforcemnts had been brought in to the capital from outlying rural areas.

Student unrest sparked massive nationwide pro-democracy demonstrations in 1988, which were only quelled after troops gunned down thousands of unarmed demonstrators on the streets of the capital and other towns and generals reimposed control in a coup in September that year.

Universities and colleges were closed during the demonstrations and were only reopened again last May.

Diplomats in Bangkok said the junta's decision Wednesday to close down the country's colleges was clearly aimed at heading off any repeat of the 1988 uprising.

High schools in Rangoon have also been closed since Monday, ostensibly for a sports festival, a resident of Rangoon said.

"We don't know if it was just a coincidence that the high schools were closed but they are not due to reopen for another week or so," the resident added.

High school students joined their older university colleagues in spearheading the 1988 uprising, which was quickly joined by people from all walks of life, including civil servants and even members of the armed forces.

High schools, which were also shut down nationwide in 1988, reopened in September 1989.

The official WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY [LOKTHA PYEITHU NEZIN] newspaper Thursday published an accurate account of the timing of Wednesday's demonstration at Rangoon University, but it failed to mention that arrests had been made or the reasons behind the rally, another resident said.

Mandalay Station Explosion Kills 2, Wounds 18

BK1212143091 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Excerpt] Unscrupulous subversive elements have been hampering and disrupting regional peace and tranquillity, and have been conducting destructive activities such as planting explosives to kill and maim innocent commuters and frighten people who prefer peaceful living.

Accordingly, a bomb in a knapsack was placed by an unscrupulous person at the Lashio ticket counter in the Mandalay railways station. It exploded at about 1812 on 11 December.

The explosion killed two innocent communters and wounded 18 others, including two children and a railways worker. [passage omitted]

Status of Four More NLD Representatives Annulled

BK1312073891 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Announcement No. 985 of the Multiparty Democratic General Elections Commission of the Union of Myanmar, dated 12 December 1991]

[Text] Nullification of the status as People's Assembly representatives of four persons who infringed on Section 11-J of the People's Assembly Elections Law.

1. The following people elected as People's Assembly representatives for the National League for Democracy [NLD] have been found to be guilty of the offenses listed below:

A. U Saw Win alias Kyaw Zaw Lin, AB072455, Tilin Township constituency, Magwe Division—Section 3 of the Law Safeguarding Public Property.

B. U Maung Maung Latt, 12/Pakata-Naing021938, Thaketa Township constituency-1, Yangon [Rangoon] Division—Article 202-1 of the Criminal Procedures Code.

C. U Hla Than, 12/Khamata-Naing008214, Coco Island constituency, Yangon Division—Article 122-1 of the Criminal Procedures Code.

D. U Mya Win, 12/Yakana-Naing005618, Ingapu Township constituency-1, Irrawaddy Division—Article 122-1 of the Criminal Procedures Code.

2. Hence, the persons mentioned above are found to have infringed on Section 11-J of the People's Assembly Law and they no longer have the right to remain as elected representative of the People's Assembly. It is hereby declared that their status as elected representatives of the People's Assembly has been nullified.

3. It is also hereby announced that in accordance with Section 80-A of the People's Assembly Election Law, the four persons mentioned above shall no longer have the right to run for elections in the future.
By the authority vested in me.
Signed: Aye Maung, secretary

Cambodia

Sihanouk Receives PRC Envoy's Credentials

BK1312034891 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 2300 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] At 1000 on 12 December at Khemarin Pavilion, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk—head of state of Cambodia, father of the Cambodian nation, and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia—received the credentials of His Excellency Fu Xuezhang, Chinese permanent representative to the SNC.

The PRC has decided to nominate a representative to the SNC following the Republic of France, the United States, and the United Kingdom—the permanent members of the UN Security Council—which have a vital role in a settlement of the Cambodian problem.

In the credentials presentation ceremony, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk said: This has substantiated the intimate brotherly relations of friendship between Cambodia and the PRC. The SNC will strive to firm up the time-honored friendship between Cambodia and China and totally endorse the mission of the Chinese representative in Cambodia. The samdech added that he was very pleased with the constant close cooperation of great friendship and solidarity rendered to Cambodia by the Chinese party and state leaders. Samdech Norodom Sihanouk again appealed, through the Chinese diplomat, to the CPC chief and Chinese state and government leaders to continue providing generous assistance to the Cambodian people.

In his reply, His Excellency Fu Xuezhang stressed that in his capacity as a restorer of the bonds of friendship between China and Cambodia and between the Chinese and Cambodian peoples, he will strive to strengthen the Sino-Cambodian ties and cooperation, adding that: We ardently hope that the SNC and Cambodian leaders will assist us in making our mission a success within the framework of the traditional relations of friendship between our two countries, China and Cambodia.

Invites PRC's Qian Qichen To Visit

BK1312093591 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0407 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Phnom Penh 13 Dec (SPK)—The interim authority of Cambodia's national reconciliation, the Supreme National Council [SNC], is "a basket of crabs," AFP [AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS] quoted SNC Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk as saying.

The prince also invited the head of the Chinese diplomacy, Qian Qichen, to pay an official visit to Cambodia between 25 December and 3 January. China cancelled its visit after Khieu Samphan, the titular Khmer Rouge leader and Beijing's protege, was evacuated from the lynching in Phnom Penh on 27 November. He has since taken refuge in Bangkok.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk stated this on the occasion of the credentials presentation by Chinese permanent envoy Fu Xuezhang to the SNC.

On the SNC, the prince said it was "like a basket of crabs" which "disperse in all directions."

"Now and then you can catch a crab, but the others get away. Then you find them all over the world but never in Phnom Penh at the same time," the prince said.

The Cambodian leaders, at a meeting in Phatthaya last week, agreed that the Khmer Rouge would return to Phnom Penh to stay under adequate protection at the SNC headquaters.

"I am waiting in vain for them," the former monarch lamented over the Khmer Rouge chiefs and the leaders of the two former noncommunist resistance factions, including the Sihanoukist group led by his own son, Prince Ranariddh.

"They must come or otherwise I will continue working with the State of Cambodia," the prince said, referring to his relations with the regime of Prime Minister Hun Sen.

"It has been like this since my arrival. That is why the SNC is not yet operational," he added.

A senior vanguard Khmer Rouge official, Mak Ben, returned to Phnom Penh on Tuesday [10 December], the prince said, adding that there was "no indication" of the date of the return to the capital by Khieu Samphan and Son Sen—the latter is the head of the Khmer Rouge military wing.

China has rendered constant support to the Khmer Rouge since the movement took up arms in Cambodia in 1970 for wrestling back power that they occupied between 1975 and 1979 at the expense of more than a million dead.

"I cannot waste my time. I must concentrate on the rehabilitation of my people, the reconstruction of my country," the prince concluded, pointing out that he pledged to maintain his neutrality among the factions, but they should be present in Phnom Penh.

Khmer Rouge Officials Said To Plan Return

BK1312074891 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Dec 91

[From the "Foreign News" feature]

[Text] According to Hanoi Radio's 12 December broadcast, the Secretariat of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia will meet in Phnom Penh next week on the eve of the plenary session of the SNC.

The radio also said that the Khmer Rouge representatives in the SNC Secretariat and two other Khmer Rouge officials are prepared to return to Phnom Penh on 17 December and that the meeting of the SNC Secretariat will be held shortly after the arrival of those people.

Hanoi Radio added that Mr. Son Sann, leader of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front and member of the SNC, will return to Phnom Penh on 15 December.

Sihanouk Discusses Aid, Foreign Interference

BK1212005891 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] On 9 December, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, visited Kompong Cham Province. During his visit, the samdech appealed to the four Cambodian parties to correctly and meticulously implement the Paris accord. He said the Cambodian parties should consider the national interest before their own interests or those of any group. Should they be able to do so, all obstacles to the reconstruction of Cambodia would be disposed of.

On Cambodia's sovereignty and independence, the samdech said Cambodia is a sovereign and independent country, so it will not allow any foreign country to interfere in its internal affairs.

He added that Cambodia welcomes assistance from various countries for its peace, stability, and progress, providing they will not intervene in Cambodia's internal affairs.

Sihanouk Plans To Contest in 1993 Elections

BK1212022691 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Station article: "The Cambodian People Support Samdech Norodom Sihanouk's Appeal for Effective Implementation of the Paris Accord"]

[Text] During his visit to Kompong Cham Province, Samdech Norodom Sihanouk called on all Cambodian parties to jointly and sincerly implement the peace accord on Cambodia signed in Paris on 23 October.

The samdech said the parties should put the nation's interest first, eliminating all obstacles against the implementation of the accord and thus allowing for joint efforts to rebuild Cambodia. He added that Cambodia is an independent and sovereign country, and that no one is allowed to intervene in its internal affairs.

Disclosing he will contest in the 1993 elections, the samdech however said he would not be involved in parliament or in the administration.

On the issue of foreign aid, he pointed out that Cambodia welcomes all kinds of aid as long as it does not interfere in its internal affairs. This is clear evidence that the samdech, in his capacity as the head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, has definitely determined the policy of national reconciliation, compromise, and great national union without discriminating against any political leaning. He has done all sorts of things to muster the national forces to implement the peace accord to end the Vietnamese war of aggression against Cambodia in the most effective and correct manner.

The Cambodian nation and people enthusiastically welcome and unreservedly endorse the appeal of Samdech Norodom Sihanouk, head of state of Cambodia and SNC chairman. They pledge to fully cooperate with the SNC and all Cambodian national forces to effectively and correctly implement the peace accord on Cambodia.

Sihanouk Speaks at Kompong Cham Orphanage

BK1312121991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Speech by Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, during his visit to Kompong Cham Province orphanage on 11 December—recorded]

[Text] I, Samdech Euv [prince father], Samdech Ta [prince grandfather], Norodom Sihanouk, would like to pay respects to his excellency [H.E.] the prime minister of the State of Cambodia [SOC] and Mrs. Hun Sen; to all excellencies, mesdames, gentlemen, ladies, grandfathers, grandmothers, uncles, aunts, brothers, sisters, children, and grandchildren whom I love and miss so much; and to all international guests who are friends of Cambodia:

First of all, I would like to express great joy at being able to meet with my grandchildren at this splendid place, an excellent feat which is very important to our youths who are the future of our nation. This feat is attributable to the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], the SOC Government, Their Excellencies Chairmen Hun Sen, Chea Sim and Heng Samrin, our people who are staying in the great family of the CPP and SOC Government, and particularly to the administraion of this great Kompong Cham Province.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my warmest commendation and deepest thanks to Their Excellencies Prime Minister Hun Sen and Chairman Chea Sim and to the CPP, and SOC Government which have strived arduously day and night since January 1979 to serve, defend, and build the motherland, and improve the livelihood of our people and youths, particularly in this province and some other places where I had visited. Especially in Kompong Kantuot, I saw much evidence of your good care given to our youths, particularly my children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren who are orphans.

I would like once again to express my thanks and commendation to all of you for kindly fulfilling this sacred mission for the lofty interests of our Cambodian motherland, our people, our youths, and particularly boys and girls who have no one to rely on nor any place to live, having lost their families during [words indistinct], era of our great misery. Thus, their only family is the CPP and the SOC Government.

Now, as all grandchildren have said, with me, Samdech Ta, and Neak Monieng Yeay [princess grandmother—Sihanouk's wife] around, you have a full family, that is, you have the grandfather, grandmother, and the father and mother—the CPP and SOC Government giving you good care and affection so that in the future you will become good and valuable citizens who enjoy freedom and strive to build the country harmoniously and happily within our Cambodian community as during my era prior to the coup d'etat of 18 March 1970. At present, the CPP and the SOC have succeeded my mission. However, I must stress that since the CPP and the SOC Government leaders H.E. Chea Sim has asked permission to become my blood brother and H.E. Hun Sen to become my son, we now have a full family, thus all of you, children and grandchildren, now have a warm and secured family. Now and in the future, I will stay with you forever until I die. I will not separate from you. [applause]

Concerning the aid for the interests of my grandchildren who are orphans here and elsewhere, H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen, on behalf of the SOC, has made countless contributions as seen by the very beautiful buildings here. They are arranged properly for my grandchildren who are the future of our nation. I am very pleased with this beautiful place where the inhabitants are honored as good and valuable citizens of the future.

As Prime Minister Hun Sen and I have said, we still have a great shortage of means and materials for improving the livelihood and giving sufficient education to all children and grandchildren so that in the future you will become valuable and wise citizens who can effectively and successfully serve the motherland.

Availing myself of this occasion, I would like to pay respects to and ask all ladies and gentlemen who are our international friends, such as Australians, Americans, and French, to please help my children and grandchildren here. You have given kindness and great friendship toward our Cambodian people, youths, and motherland. I bow in respect of all of you who have been so kind to Cambodia which has just emerged as an independent state from a bitter era. In such a situation, our country is very much in need of international aid, aid from all friendly countries which want to help make our country prosperous quickly. Thank you very much for this. [applause]

Now, I would like once again to recall that from the day I returned to the motherland to live with all children and grandchildren, that is the day I arrived in Phnom Penh, our capital city, on 14 November to date, I have had no rest. I have worked day and night, from dawn to late at night. I have worked this way only to help salvage our motherland particularly in the social and humanitarian fields, improve the livelihood of our people and youths, and rebuild and bring prosperity to our country. I will never interfere in the administrative affairs of the SOC and all other affairs which are the duties, tasks, and rights of the CPP. But since our Cambodia's SNC [Supreme National Council] has asked me to help in the social, cultural, and humanitarian fields; in building the country; improving the livelihood of our people, our citizens, and youths, I have worked tirelessly both at home and in the international arena because I know that [words indistinct] it was not because of me but because Messrs. Lon Nol and Sirik Matak prevented me from coming to see you. Mr. Pol Pot called me back at that time only to lock me up. Members of my family and my wife's family were also killed like your families. I could not then fulfill my sacred wish to protect you.

Now I have come back thanks to the fact that the CPP and the SOC Government have kindly regarded me as the father of the entire Cambodian nation. Therefore, I will spare no effort in carrying out my work because I do not know for how many years more I will be able to stay with all of you. I am now 70 years old. H.E. Hun Sen and I would like to thank you very much for wishing us long lives, 200 years for me and 100 years for him. But I will be happy enough to be able to live to 80. Yes, I will be very happy to live on for another 10 years [words indistinct]. You have blessed me to live on until I am 200 years old. I will be pleased enough to live to 80 or 81 or 82. Let's put it at only 80. I will be happy enough to be able to live with all my children and grandchildren for another 10 years and will be even happier to live on for more than 10 years. But that is up to the blessings of Lord Buddha, to God, and to the power of your blessing as well. Thank you very much. H.E. Hun Sen has said that he wants to live for just 60 years. (?I wish him to live until he is) 80 or 90 years old because we want H.E. Hun Sen to lead the country [words indistinct] great interests of our country, people, and youths. Now I would like to conclude my speech with the following information:

I am capable of seeking the materials and equipment that you need. As I have promised the children and grandchildren at Kompong Cham provincial hospital and the children's hospital, those in Kompong Cham Province, and particularly the hospital in Tbong Khmum District, and those at the Kompong Cham Province's agricultural school which I had just visited, I promise you that I will work for this end in constant and closest cooperation with H.E. Hun Sen, my most beloved and highly respected prime minister. I have asked H.E. Minister Dit Munti who represents the SOC Government to attend a lengthy discussion I had the other day with representatives of many UN agencies, including humanitarian, social, health, economic, and all other fields concerning national construction. I also invited three SOC representatives and three representatives from the tripartite Cambodian resistance movement comprising six representatives of our SNC to talk with them. We did not talk politics. We talked about assistance for all children and grandchildren in the humanitarian, cultural, social, educational, economic, and public works. That is, they will help us in all aspects and all sectors. Whatever our shortages may be, they will make utmost efforts to settle for us.

I would like to inform all children and grandchildren present here who are in need of materials and means for (?improving your life) that I am really capable of quickly resolving this problem for you. I would like to ask H.E. Hun Sen, my most beloved and highly respected prime minister, to please send Minister Dit Munti to meet me tomorrow to draw up plans together with Truong Meali, head of my office. After that, Their Excellencies Truong Meali and Dit Munti will be duty-bound to resolve this problem together with the international UN agencies of all branches, and particularly to contact those branches which are in charge of what we need to ask them to quickly give us aid for assisting all children and grandchildren in Kompong Cham Province and other provinces. I do not forget children and grandchildren in other provinces.

Another point is that as deputy minister Kong Sam-ol has said, Samdech Euv has pointed out that there is another possibility, that is we should hold direct negotiations with friendly countries. That is one thing. That is, we should negotiate with countries which have volunteered to help us in giving whatever we need. They will help us wholeheartedly (?because we have strived) to rebuild our country [words indistinct]. This is called bilateral cooperation [words indistinct], such as between Cambodia and (?France) and Cambodia and Australia. [words indistinct] Cambodia and France. Thus, we will talk with France to ask for assistance, such as personnel, experts, doctors, and [words indistinct] for helping you in resolving your problems.

If there is anything needed here, I would like to ask his excellency the provincial chief, whom I respect and love, to please list clearly for me the items needed so that I can have it ready for negotiations with them. [words indistinct] under the chairmanship of H.E. Hun Sen. Our country is not ruled by the administration of the tripartite resistance movement, but by H.E. Hun Sen's side. It is correct to say that the zone under H.E. Hun Sen's side, under the CPP and the State of Cambodia's Government, is 90 percent or over 80 percent of our country's area. Thus, the administration is under Prime Minister H.E. Hun Sen. But as I have told you, I am to help you in such fields as the humanitarian one which fits my line of work. Other fields, such as national education, social affairs, health, national construction, and improvement of people's livelihood are also my tasks. Therefore, I would like H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen to assign H.E. Dit Munti—a Khmer Leu [ethnic minority] to jointly work with H.E. Truong Meali—someone from Kampuchea Kraom [former Cambodian territory now part of southern Vietnam]—Kampuchea Kraom and Kampuchea Leu are all from the same family, to contact various countries, such as France, and various UN branches, such as agriculture.

Tomorrow, I will invite them to meet me at the Khemarin Palace to discuss this matter.

In addition to this, my Chinese friends, the PRC, have given some aid to us. [words indistinct] to the SOC.

Now I will read a message given me by H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen for this occasion of my meeting with all of you.

Items for the samdech, father of the nation, to distrubute to his children and grandchildren in this orphanage:

To each orphan, a gift of 10,000 riels, a blanket, a scarf, a piece of cloth large enough to make a shirt, a piece of cloth large enough to make a paor pf trousers, and a sarong. [applause] Each guardian will receive the same items as each orphan. [applause]

[Passage indistinct] distribute my personal gift together with that of the CPP and SOC Government so that you can buy something you need. I would like to donate 300 U.S. dollars. [applause] I really admire the girl who made the speech just now. Your speech is very clear and pleasant to hear. I admire you, girl. I admire all my children and grandchildren, boys and girls, who were (? under the care of) H.E. Hun Sen [words indistinct]. I thank all children and grandchildren who danced and sang for me and extended best wishes to me. I admire you boys and girls. You are very good. I am so pleased with all of you. Thank you all children and grandchildren [words indistinct]. I thank all of you children and grandchildren, both Buddhist and Islamic children and grandchildren. Islam is one of our nation's outstanding religions. Buddhism and Islam are valuable religions. I miss all of you very much. I am very glad to see all of you again thanks to the CPP and the SOC Government. Several years ago, I lost hope. I lost hope to be able to [words indistinct]. Now our religions, Buddhism and Islam, are revived. I am so happy. I would like to inform all children and grandchildren inside and outside the country that I am very happy. I miss all of you very much and am very happy to meet all of you again as in the past.

I am very glad to see the revival of our religions and other beliefs of the ethnic minorities. I am very happy to see the revival of our nation, the Cambodian nation, with the effective assistance of the CPP. I am very happy. I would like to thank the SOC Government and the CPP. [applause]

I would like to conclude my speech now. I am very happy to be able to meet all of you again. Children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren, I, grandfather, and your grandmother thank all of you so much for warmly welcoming us.

I would like to again thank all foreign friends present here.

May the triple jewels of Buddhism bless all of you, H.E. Prime Minister Hun Sen and madame, the CPP, the SOC Government, excellencies, mesdames, ladies, gentlemen, brothers, sisters, uncles, aunts, children, and grandchildren, and save you. Thank you. [applause]

Son Sann Visits Thai Border Refugee Camps

BK1312101591 (Clandestine) Voice of the Khmer in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Dec Dec 91

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann, president of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council [SNC], ended his visit to the Cambodian-Thai border after spending three days at Site 2 and Sok San camps with Cambodian people who are loyal to the KPNLF.

H.E. Son Sann spent two days, 9 and 10 December, at Site 2 camp where he met with those in charge of various establishments, law students, and police chiefs. On 10 December, H.E. Son Sann took part in a human rights celebration in which he spoke in support of human rights defense in Cambodia.

On 11 December, H.E. Son Sann visited Sok Sann camp where he asked colleagues to report to and inform the people who were present to greet him on the last meeting in Phatthaya on the Cambodian situation, the 27 November incident, and the repatriation issue.

H.E. Son Sann is due to return to Phnom Penh for the second time this coming Sunday.

Sihanouk Receives Belgian Envoy's Credentials

BK1312112191 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] At 1100 on 12 December at the Khemarin palace, His Excellency Pierre de Muelenaere, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Belgium, called on and presented his credentials to Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Cambodian Supreme National Council. This is the resumption of the diplomatic relations between Belgium and Cambodia, relations which were disrupted for many years due to the civil war in the country.

On this occasion, Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk said the peace process in Cambodia has made progress worthy of pride. On behalf of the SNC and the State of Cambodia's Government, we welcome your excellency's important mission and will strive to ensure that your excellency achieves success in your mission.

Samdech Preah Norodom Sihanouk further said that as SNC chairman, the shade for the nation and reconciliator to bring peace to the motherland: I will not let time go by without doing anything.

Replying, H.E. Pierre de Muelenaere stressed that: I am happy to be appointed by the Belgian Government to work in Cambodia to reestablish the good relations of friendship and solidarity and cooperation between our two countries, Belgium and Cambodia.

Tie Banh Discusses Relations With SRV Envoy

BK1312120991 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 10 December 1991 at the Defense Ministry, General Tie Banh, member of the Standing Committee of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP], vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, and State of Cambodia's defense minister, received for talks His Excellency [H.E.] Tran Huy Chuong, ambassador of the SRV to Cambodia.

On this occasion, General Tie Banh briefed H.E. the ambassador on the Cambodian situation after the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement stressing that compared to the period before the agreement, the military situation is relaxed. On the relations of friendship between the State of Cambodia and the SRV, the General stressed that we continue to do what our two people have done without any changes.

In reply, H.E. Tran Huy Chuong pointed out that we pay attention to solidarity with Cambodia and learn from Cambodia's policy. We welcome the Cambodian people's victories. Under the CPP leadership, the Cambodian people will score new and greater successes to build a nonaligned Cambodia. The ambassador stressed that: We will strive to better consolidate the relations of solidarity and friendship between our two fraternal people.

Chea Sim Receives French Ambassador on 11 Dec

BK1212090491 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] His Excellency [H.E.] Chea Sim, chairman of the Cambodian People's Party [CPP] Central Committee, National Assembly, and the Kampuchean United Front for National Construction and Defense National

Council, granted a cordial audience to H.E. Philippe Costes, extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Republic of France to Cambodia, at the National Assembly office on the afternoon of 11 December.

H.E. Philippe Costes expressed pleasure with his mission to Cambodia, saying that this is evidence of the resumption of the relations of solidarity and friendship between the governments and peoples of the two countries, which were severed in 1975.

H.E. Chea Sim expressed his pleasure at, and welcomed, the appointment of H.E. Philippe Costes as the French ambassador to Cambodia. He wished the French diplomat every success in the implementation of his noble task in Cambodia so as to contribute to the cause of peace, mankind, and social progress.

Seminar Held With French on Road Repairs

BK1112132091 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0416 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh 10 (SPK)—The Ministry of Communications, Transport, and Posts, in cooperation with a delegation of the French Ministry of Communications, recently organized a seminar on the construction and repair of communications lines.

Tram Iev-toek, Cambodian deputy communications minister, on this occasion praised the relations and cooperation between the two ministries of communications, suspended 16 years ago.

Tram Iev-toek stressed that the seminar is a good opportunity for Cambodian engineers and technicians to be aware of modern techniques and to join in the restoration of communications lines in the country.

He also talked about efforts over the past years to restore communications lines, particularly roads and bridges which were seriously destroyed by the genocidal regime, war, and recently by floods.

During the past 13 years, the Road and Bridge Department has repaired 1,900 km of roads.

The French delegation was led by Mr. Roger Megny, representative of the Communications Ministry for Asia-Pacific.

Hor Namhong Receives Indian Minister of State

BK1312065291 Phnom Penh SPK in English 0420 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Phnom Penh SPK December 13—Indian minister of state for external affairs, Eduardo Faleiro, arrived here Thursday, marking a new phase in relations between New Delhi and Phnom Penh.

He flew in via Bangkok accompanied by C.M. Bhandari, India's ambassador-designate to Cambodia's Supreme National Council (SNC).

India was the only country outside the former East Bloc to recognize the Phnom Penh government and opened an embassy here in 1980.

The new Indian ambassador will be accredited to the SNC, a reconciliation body that groups leaders of the Phnom Penh government and the three factions that fought to oust it for nearly 13 years.

India's current ambassador will stay on as the embassy's number-two.

Faleiro was meeting Thursday with Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the Phnom Penh government and a member of the SNC.

He was to meet Friday with Ieng Mouli, the only resistance faction leader currently in Phnom Penh representing the faction loyal to Son Sann, and travel to Angkor, capital of the vast Hindu-influenced Khmer empire that is the ancestor of present-day Cambodia.

Faleiro would also have talks Saturday with Phmom Penh Premier Hun Sen and the SNC Chairman Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Cambodian officials said.

Faleiro is to conclude his visit Sunday. Before leaving New Delhi he said the main purpose of the visit would be to assess areas in which India—which has already sent troops to the United Nations peacekeeping contingent here—could provide economic assistance.

He said he would also discuss the possible import of Cambodian timber and rubber.

Indonesia

Continuing Reportage on Dili Shooting Incident

Military Chief Says Situation 'Secure'

BK1312010891 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Excerpts] General Try Sutrisno, commander of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Indonesia, says the development drive in every sector must be based on the archipelagic concept to ensure that all aspects of the political, economic, sociocultural, defense, and security life remain part of an integral entity. [passage omitted]

Answering questions from reporters at a working meeting with House Commission X [in charge of environment, science, and technology], the Armed Forces commander asked all parties to exercise self-restraint in commenting on the 12 November Dili incident and to trust the National Investigation Commission, as the sole authoritative body, to compile a report on the incident.

According to General Try Sutrisno, the current situation in Dili is secure and the people can subsequently carry on with their activities and work more calmly. Thus, the people are asked not to be provoked by rumors unleashed by the Fretilin [Revolutionary Front for an

Independent East Timor] which has distorted the facts about the Dili incident abroad.

Patience Urged on Commission Results

BK1312110291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0958 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Jakarta, Dec 13 (OANA-ANTARA)—Chief of the Indonesian Armed Forces (ABRI) General Try Sutrisno said here Thursday evening that everybody must be patient in waiting for reports by the National Investigation Commission (KPN) on the Dili incident and restrain from making too hasty comments.

"It is unwise to make comments while the KPN has not submitted its final reports. After all, we all have confidence in the commission to find out what was actually going on during the November 12 incident," he said.

Following a hearing with the House's Commission X [Roman 10], Sutrisno told newsmen, he ruled out allegations that KPN was not independent as it cut short its visit to East Timor soon after President Suharto returned from his three-week foreign trip.

"There is no link between the president's arrival and the KPN's decision to return to Jakarta sooner than planned. Everybody should not only see things negatively. Whether the KPN wishes to return earlier or later, it's all up to the seven-member team," he said.

Asked what if the KPN finally announced that the number of victims in the Dili incident was higher than the official figure of 19 killed and 91 injured, Sutrisno said, "There is no need to predict things. Once the reports are announced, we can all comment on them."

He also said that the Battalion 303 which reportedly was involved in the incident and had been withdrawn to its homebase, would soon be replaced.

He said it had not been decided which battalion would replace Battalion 303, but the important thing now is that life in Dili has returned to normal and people have been to carry out their routine activities. [as received]

According to Sutrisno, people must not be easily influenced by rumors spread by the Fretilin security disturbing movement (GPK) as they always "twisted" facts about the Dili incident abroad.

Sutrisno promised to celebrate Christmas in the predominantly Catholic province together with a number of his staff members later this month.

On some donor countries' decision to postpone aid provision to Indonesia following the incident, he said, "Our task is to return all our debts. It is obvious that we cannot let anyone tie political strings to loans provided for us."

He reminded that loans were always "suplementary" In nature.

Australian Minister: No Sanctions

BK1312133491 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 1200 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Australia does not blame Indonesia for the Dili incident and hopes that bilateral trade relations will continue to flourish. Speaking after a luncheon organized by the Indonesia-Australia Business Association in Jakarta today, Australian minister of industries, technology, and commerce, John Button, said his country will impose no economic sanctions like the Canadian and Netherlands Governments.

The minister added the Australian Government has great regard for the Jaelani-led National Investigation Committee set up by the Indonesian Government to probe the Dili incident. Australia is still waiting for the outcome of the investigation and will not set up another independent committee to probe the incident.

Malaysian Envoy: 'Internal Matter'

BK1312011691 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Malaysian Ambassador to Indonesia Datuk Abdullah Zawawi bin Haji Mohamed has made it clear that the Dili incident is an Indonesian internal matter with which other countries are not allowed to interfere. Speaking in Manado, North Sulawesi, the Malaysian ambassador said that Malaysia consistently supports the Indonesian Government's policy of handling the incident. The Malaysian Government also welcomes the establishment of a national investigation commission to conduct an inquiry into the incident.

U.S. Journalists Blacklisted

BK1212132291 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 4 Dec 91 pp 1,8

[Text] Jakarta—The Indonesian government has blacklisted two U.S. journalists for alleged implication in the November 12 incident in Dili, Director general of Immigration Roni Sikap Sinuraya told the press Tuesday.

The director general said the two American journalists blacklisted by the immigration office are Allan Yoseph Nairn and Ami Goodman.

Even though the two journalists are blacklisted, the Indonesian government does not ban foreign journalists from entering the country, including East Timor province, he added.

Speaking on the press after attending a plenary session of the House of Representatives (DPR) which discussed a bill on immigration, the director general said that the two American journalists were blacklisted for security reason because they are suspected of involvement in the Dili incident, they also abused their tourist visas.

In last week's DPR session, Indonesian Armed Forces Commander Try Sutrisno expressed suspicion over foreign involvement in the incident.

At least five foreigners are suspected to have been involved in the riots, the armed forces commander said.

Besides Nairn and Goodman, the names of Christopher Wender and Stephen Christoper Cook were also referred to. They are British nationals.

According to Sinuraya, the two blacklisted journalists did not admit that they were journalists when entering Indonesia, and used tourist visas.

The visa abuse violated the law, the more so because they conducted journalistic activities when staying in Indonesia.

Under this consideration, the immigration office included their names in the blacklist, he said adding that requests for the blacklist of the two foreign journalists also came from other security agencies.

Suharto Stance on Conditional Aid Applauded

BK1312023091 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0000 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Station commentary]

[Text] Briefing reporters on his return from state visits last Wednesday, President Suharto reiterated that foreign aid should be extended unconditionally. According to the head of state, conditions, if any, will simply involve repayment periods and interest. Indonesia will not accept aid attached to political conditions. President Suharto made the clarification amid persistent reports abroad on the 12 November Dili incident and possible economic and other sanctions against Indonesia. He said that we should adhere to our principles of self-reliance if they finally decide to stop their aid because foreign aid is in principle complementary in nature. Moreover, we are determined to enter the take-off period to enhance the development program with our own capabilities.

What the head of state said is correct and consistent with one of the seven basic principles of national development embodied in the basic outline of state policies. The seven basic principles are usefulness, common effort and a family-like relationship, democracy, justice and an even distribution of wealth, a balanced life, legal consciousness, and finally self-confidence—a point that President Suharto reiterated in his briefing. Self-confidence implies that national development must be based on confidence in our own capabilities and national identity. However, this principle must not be narrowly interpreted to imply that we do not need external cooperation and aid. This must be underlined vis-a-vis international cooperation, particularly international economic relations. However, this does not mean that the Indonesian people can simply accept all conditions imposed by countries that will give aid to them. Economic development means the development of potential economic resources into a real economic force through investment, the use of technology, and the enhancement of organizational and managerial skills. Until Indonesia possesses these factors of production, we can use foreign investment, technology, and skills as long as this does not lead to endless dependence or harm national interests.

Obviously, political conditions attached to foreign aid to Indonesia in the wake the 12 November Dili incident are definitely unacceptable to the Indonesian people because this will harm national interests. Indonesia consistently adheres to the principles of peaceful coexistence, respect for national sovereignty, non-interference in internal affairs, and mutually advantageous cooperation in its relations with other countries.

Minister Doubtful Foreign Aid To Be Suspended

BK1312065691 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0600 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita says he does not believe that donor countries are serious about suspending their economic aid to Indonesia following the 12 November 1991 Dili incident. Answering questions from reporters in Jakarta yesterday, Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said that economic aid to Indonesia could not be simply linked to political issues. Above all, the aid is closely linked to efforts to promote social welfare.

Thus, Minister Ginanjar said that any decision by a developed country to suspend its economic aid to Indonesia would mean that the government of that particular country still has a colonial mentality. He added that no mining and energy projects, particularly electricity projects, would be affected if donor countries decided to suspend their economic aid to Indonesia.

Bali Called Transit Point for Drug Trafficking

BK1212132091 Jakarta THE INDONESIA TIMES in English 5 Dec 91 p 1

[Text] Jakarta—Bali is one of transit points for international drug trafficking, because it lies between two continents, has a heavy air traffic, and popular tourism resort.

Director-General of Customs and Excise Suharto stated this in a working meeting with the House of Representatives Commission VII here yesterday.

Some foreigners have been detained in drug smuggling attempt, two of them arrested in Ngurah Rai airport and one other in Lombok. In December, 1989, two American and two Australian were arrested after being caught carrying cocaine in their suit-cases.

Customs officials, he added, always monitor boats which ply between RI [Republic of Indonesia] and Australia. They also conducted information exchange within the ASEAN member countries.

Timor Gap Oil Contract Awarded to Consortium

BK1212141091 Jakarta ANTARA in English 1336 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Jakarta, Dec. 12 (OANA-ANTARA)—Indonesia and Australia agreed to give a contract for exploring oil in Zone A of the East Timor Gap to a consortium of 11 companies, Mining and Energy Minister Ginanjar Kartasasmita said here on Thursday.

The agreement was signed in Cairns, Australia, Wednesday, by Minister Ginanjar and Australian Minister of Resources, Alan Griffiths.

The signing of the production-sharing contract agreement between the Indonesia-Australia Joint Authority and the consortium is scheduled here on December 17, he said.

Those joining the consortium are big companies from the United States, Canada, the Netherlands, Britain, Australia, South Korea, and Japan.

Among the companies are Shell, British Petroleum, Korea Petroleum, and Nippon Oil.

They have agreed -to make a total investment of US$362.32 million.

Zone A is divided into 14 working contract areas each measuring around 2,500 square kilometers. So far contract agreements have already been made for 11 areas.

No companies have expressed an interest to explore two areas namely Zoca-91-06 and Zoca 91-07, which are close to Indonesia because they have a deep seabed that makes exploration uneconomical.

Ginanjar said he had not received any pressures which were linked to the recent incident in East Timor's capital of Dili, from his counterpart.

The signing of the contracts went smoothly without any troubles or pressures from the Australian Government, he said.

He admitted his Australian counterpart had taken a chance to ask about the incident and he had explained about it like what the government had already told the people through mass media.

Philippines To Get Transponder Facilities

BK1212081291 Jakarta ANTARA in English 0654 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Manila, Dec. 12 (ANTARA/OANA-PNA)—The Indonesian state-owned telecommunications company, P.T. Telekomunikasi (Telkom), will provide the new transponder facilities to the new domestic satellite operator—Capitol Wireless, Inc. (Capwire), Philippine Satellite Communications Network (Philsat) for its one billion pesos.

Earlier, a memorandum of agreement was signed by Telkom's director, A. Purwo, and deputy director for marketing, Komarudin S., Capwire President Cesar Castro, and Capwire's vice president for international operations, Marilyn Santiago.

As indicated in the agreement, Telkom will also provide new transponder facilities to Republic Broadcasting System (RBS) which operates GMA [Greater Manila Area] television network.

Capwire reserved for one full transponder in Telkom's new generation Palapa B 4 while RBS for a half transponder.

With the acquisition of the new facilities, Philsat's master hub station will be definitely be operational [as received] by April or May 1992 together with some other key locations in the Philippines, including those which are required by the Philippine Department of Transportation and Communications [DOTC] municipal telephone project office.

The Philsat project, which was approved by the Philippine National Economic and Development Authority Governing Board chaired by Philippine President Corazon C. Aquino, is a joint venture of the DOTC and Capwire.

Laos

Foreign Aid to Vientiane in 1991 Outlined

BK1312095691 Vientiane KPL in English 0905 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 13 (KPL)—Vientiane Municipality this year has received some U.S. $1.5 million aid and loan from foreign countries and international organisations for its socioeconomic development, disclosed the municipal service of industry, trade and external economic relations.

The amount of which U.S. $800,000 is loan, has been used in various sectors: U.S. $8,000 in communication, U.S. $313,000 in public health, U.S. $300,000 in agriculture, and U.S. $86,400 in education.

Among the aid donors are Holland, Asian Institute of Technology, FAO [UN Food and Agriculture Organization], Lao students association in Australia, UNHCR [UN High Commissioner for Refugees], the Save the Children Fund (UK), International Christian Organisation, France, Japan, Australian Embassy here, Japanese association for books to Lao children, World Concern, ICDS [expansion unknown], Japanese kindergarten students' parents association, WHO, UNICEF.

During the year, foreign investments have been made in over 30 projects with U.S. $10.8 million capital in total, of which U.S. $3.6 million are domestic shares.

Cadre Training Pact Signed With Vietnam

BK1312102691 Vientiane KPL in English 0853 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 13 (KPL)—A cooperation agreement on cadres training, in particular in theoretical study, was signed yesterday at the party-state higher school for theoretical study here between deputy director to this school Mr. Khamnin Sisavat and director of the Social Science Academy of the Vietnamese Nguyen Ai Quoc University Mr. Tran Ngoc Nguyen.

Witnessing the signing ceremony of agreement were Mr. Sileua Bounkham, member of the Lao People's Revolutionary Party Central Committee [and] director of the party-state higher school for theoretical study, and Mr. Nguyen Xuan, Vietnamese ambassador to Laos.

The conclusion of this cooperation agreement constitutes the promotion and development of Lao-Vietnamese special relations.

France Gives Relief Aid to Flood Victims

BK1212093891 Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 12 (KPL)—France's Ambassador to Laos Daniel Dupont, on behalf of the French Government yesterday morning, handed over here some 200,000 francs to President of the Lao National Red Cross Khamliang Phonsena, as relief for Lao people who experienced serious drought and floods during the last rainy season.

The money was the first given to the Lao Red Cross Organisation. In the immediate future, the French Government is expected to provide more assistance for Lao people.

Trade With Chinese Firm Discussed

BK1312101691 Vientiane KPL in English 0902 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 13 (KPL)—A Chinese trade company of Xieng Hung area of Yunnan Province has shown its interest in trade cooperation with Luang Namtha Province of Laos.

This was disclosed by its director who recently visited the Lao province to discuss with two trade companies of Luang Namtha [on] cooperation in trade, investment, agriculture, construction and tourism.

Army Staff Official Meets PRC Military Attache

BK1112123091 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 11 Dec 91

[Text] On the afternoon of 6 December, Comrade Brigadier General Bounthon Chitvilaphon, deputy chief of the Army General Staff Department, received at the reception room of the department a courtesy call from Comrade Colonel (Li Laichen), new PRC military attache to the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], who has just arrived in Vientiane to assume his post. The meeting and talk between the guest and the host proceeded in an atmosphere of cordiality, friendship, and comradely and fraternal sentiments.

The two sides recalled the time-honored traditions of solidarity, affection, and mutual assistance between the two Armies and two peoples of Laos and China, the traditions which have now been further improved, promoted, and expanded fruitfully.

Ambassador Presents Credentials to Sihanouk

BK1012095091 Vientiane KPL in English 0858 GMT 10 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 10 (KPL)—Lao Ambassador to the Supreme National Council of Cambodia Mr. Khamphan Simmalavong presented here Saturday his credentials to Prince Norodom Sihanouk, chairman of the SNC, according to SPK.

Mr. Simmalavong affirmed that the Lao People's Democratic Republic always respected the sovereignty, integrity and independence of Cambodia.

Samdech Norodom Sihanouk pledged to provide favourable conditions to the Lao diplomat to bring his term of office in Cambodia success, thus consolidating and development the long-standing solidarity between Cambodia and Laos.

Mr. Khamphan Simmalavong is the 11th ambassador who had presented credential letters to the prince since he returned to Phnom Penh on November 14 after 13 years living in exile.

Foreign Minister Hor Namhong was also present at the occasion.

New Roads Under Way in Vientiane Province

BK1212111191 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] The clearing of a 130-km road from Tha Phabat District, Bolikhamsai Province, as a tributary road off Highway No. 13 South to Pha Lavek area in Hom District, Vientiane Province, which has been under way for two years, was 90 percent complete by the third quarter of this year. The construction of this road is the responsibility of the UN Rural Development Project or Narcotics Suppression Organization.

The road is being cleared and widened simultaneously. After the the construction of this stretch is finished, the construction project will continue, extending the road for another 60 km from Pha Lavek to Houai Nam Youak and Saisombioun District in Vientiane Province to be completed by the end of 1992. According to Mr. Som-ek, the person in charge of the project, after the roads are cleared, the project will invest more in terms of money, equipment, labor, and technology for paving the roads with laterite and gravel to turn them into standardized roads for permanent use by 1994. After that, the project will provide financial assistance to local people to carry out economic development in order to build a new life by switching from backward ways of earning a living to using new production techniques in order to grow substitute crops, such as industrial trees and agricultural crops for export. At the same time, the project will help them build hospitals and schools and organize professional training in cloth making and livestock raising to provide the multiethnic people, especially the Hmong ethnic people in the mountainous regions, to earn their living with fixed professions and to gradually improve their own living conditions.

Ongoing Road Repair, Reconstruction Work Noted

BK1312101491 Vientiane KPL in English 0855 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 13 (KPL)—The rehabilitation of a 156-km [kilometer] stretch of Road 13 North between Vientiane and Vangviangis is still being carried out effectively with the Asian Development Bank's U.S. $15 million loan.

According to its contractor, the Company for Road No. 10 Construction, the work has been carried on since early 1989. So far the earth filling works are 90 percent fulfilled, and the asphalting was completed for 83 km or 50 percent of the total length of the stretch. Now the construction of 38 Bailey bridges is being carried out, while the laying of conduits is already 60 percent completed.

The contractor said the construction works had been conducted with close supervision by the Ministry of Communications, Transport, Post and Construction, and foreign experts.

Due to technical conditions, the asphalting costs differ from area to area—18 million kip per km within Vientiane municipal area, 20 million kip per km for the path from the Vientiane municipality to Phonhong District, and 20 million kip for the path from Phonhong to Vangviang District, the contractor said, adding that the costs were very low, being calculated at the previous exchange rate of 95 kip to U.S. $1 against the current rate of 700 kip to U.S. $1. But the unit price of the construction materials remained unchanged.

The contractor also spoke of the difficulties in the execution of their work as about 116 million kip due have not been paid so far. The situation obviously affected progress of the work. However, this 156-km stretch of Road 13 North will be fully asphalted by 1992, the contractor affirmed.

Maichantan Sengmani Talks to Provincial Cadres

BK1312102291 Vientiane KPL in English 0903 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Vientiane, Dec 13 (KPL)—Maichantan Sengmani, chairman of the Party-State Control Board, recently gave talks to cadres attending a conference on party-state control work held in Champassak Province.

He spoke of the role and importance of the control work to ensure correct and effective implementation of policies and duties among various organizations.

The conference adopted a plan of action for the control work next year.

Philippines

Conditions for Release of U.S. Citizen Cited

HK1312015691 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 13 Dec 91 p 6

[By Rita Villadiego]

[Text] Communist rebels have set three conditions, including a ceasefire in Northern Luzon, for the release of a retired U.S. Army colonel whom they had seized in Cagayan 14 months ago.

In a press statement, the communist-led National Democratic Front [NDF] said Arby Duane Drown, 60, a former U.S. Army colonel allegedly working with the Defense Mapping Agency of the U.S. Department of Defense, would be released if the government complies with the following conditions:

—Suspension of all military operations in Kalinga-Apayao, Cagayan and Northern Isabela and confining of Armed Forces personnel to barracks in these areas.

—Release of all detainees suspected of supporting the New People's Army in Northern Luzon.

—If the first two conditions are met, both the government and the NDF would form a negotiating panel that would work out Drown's release with full media coverage.

The NDF statement was carried by the Free Philippines News Service, the NDF official news agency.

The NDF said the Lt. Crispin Tagamolila Command of the New People's Army will also declare a ceasefire if the government agreed to the terms for Drown's release.

The NDf statement said "A Free Duane Drown" committee, which includes the governor of Cagayan province, has been formed.

The committee has been invited to witness Drown's trial by a people's court.

Drown, who is accused of espionage, was captured by communist guerillas in October, 1990 in western Aparri, Cagayan.

More Funds Sought To Maintain Clark Air Base

HK1312123491 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] The Department of Defense is seeking an additional 254 million pesos budget for the maintenance of Clark Air Base for the following year. Defense Secretary Renato de Villa explained that the budget will be used for the maintenance of the facilities and equipment at the base. He also stressed the need to change security arrangements in order to prevent robbery from Clark Air Base. Several looters have already been arrested on the base. De Villa announced that Clark will remain a military base until the suspension on the Base Conversion Plan is lifted.

National Police To Support Christmas Truce

HK1312123591 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Senior Superintendent Reynaldo Wycoco, Philippine National Police [PNP] spokesman, said that the PNP will support the holiday cease-fire decision of the Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP]. The proposed holiday cease-fire will last for 48 hours on Christmas and New Year's Day.

[Begin Wycoco recording, in English] As I mentioned a while ago, as of now even based on the existing PNP law, the AFP is still the one primarily responsible for counterinsurgency. The PNP plays only a supportive role except in the areas of Mindoro Island and the whole island of Leyte where the PNP has already taken over. In all areas of the country it is still the AFP calling the shots as far as counter-insurgency is concerned. [end recording]

More Reportage on Senate Presidency 'Controversy'

Salonga Still Claims Presidency

HK1312020791 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Senate President Jovito Salonga criticized the 14 senators who carried out the coup d'etat aimed at ousting him as Senate leader. Salonga stressed that their accusations against him, particularly the decline of the Senate's ratings with the people, have no basis.

Salonga believes that the ouster move against him was politically motivated because the one chosen to replace him was Senator Neptali Gonzales, president of the Struggle of Filipino Democrats [LDP], who is supporting House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr's candidacy. According to Salonga, he does not recognize the violent step taken by the 14 senators against his leadership. He intends to remain in his post and said that only the Supreme Court can decide on the ongoing controversy in the Upper House of Congress.

Salonga also explained that the adjournment of the session which he called was in accordance with parliamentary rules and he will fight for this even if it reaches the courts. He asserted that he still remains the official president of the Senate because the convention called by Gonzales' group was illegal, since his expulsion from the Senate presidential post is not yet official, and the issue has not yet been officially resolved in the Senate.

To Ask Supreme Court To Settle Dispute

HK1312064091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Senator Jovito Salonga will file a legal case with the Supreme Court asking the court to determine who has the right to be and who is the legal president of the Senate. Salonga was ousted as Senate president by 14 senators and was replaced by Senator Neptali Gonzales. The full report from Jojo Ysmael:

[Begin Ysmael recording] It was learned by Philippine Broadcasting News from a reliable source who asked to remain anonymous that a legal panel was authorized by the Salonga camp to prepare and file a legal case with the Supreme Court to resolve the ongoing power struggle at the Senate.

It was learned that Senate Minority Floor Leader Senator Juan Ponce Enrile, an ally of Salonga, would head the legal panel. Prior to this, the 23-member Senate was divided into two groups after the 14 senators elected a new set of Senate officers with Senator Neptali Gonzales chosen to replace Salonga as Senate president.

In line with this, Gonzales told newsmen that President Corazon Aquino may convene the Senate on Monday [16 December] for a special meeting, with the chief executive's request addressed to him as the new Senate president. [end recording]

Aquino Rules Out Intervention

HK1312011291 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has no plans to intervene in the removal of Senator Jovito Salonga as Senate president. In a statement, the president said the ongoing trouble in the senate is an internal problem and Malacanang should stay out of it. However, Mrs. Aquino asserted that whoever sits as Senate leader will not block bills proposed by Malacanang. The president stressed that her administration will get along well with whoever becomes Senate president.

Aquino To Call Special Session 16 Dec

HK1312062091 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 0400 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] President Corazon Aquino is scheduled to call a special session of Congress this Monday. This was learned by Radyo ng Bayan from Senator Neptali Gonzales, the new Senate president. Yesterday, there was a struggle for the Senate leadership. Senate President Jovito Salonga called a session, which was immediately ended for lack of a quorum.

However, a group of 14 senators continued the session, with Gonzales taking Salonga's place, and was able to pass several bills, including the 1992 budget. Here is Gonzales' explanation of what took place yesterday.

[Begin Gonzales recording] *I mean it pains me* and my colleagues that *something like this had to happen. But it had to be done because we exhausted* all means to have a peaceful transition at the Senate, because whether it is today or tomorrow, this thing would have happened. With 14 senators, *you don't have the numbers, and in this connection,* when we were already meeting, Senator Rasul, one of their members, arrived *and attended the session. And I hope that as the days go on, then they.... [Gonzales changes thought] I mean [word indistinct] and this political reality will have to be accepted.*

Another piece of news that we can add is that *I have heard that Senate... [Gonzales changes thought] that the president will call a special session on Monday. This is most welcome because we do not want this controversy to be long and protracted.* [end recording]

Foreign Secretary Manglapus' Activities Cited

Says Laos Wants To Join ASEAN

HK1312065191 Hong Kong AFP in English 0618 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Manila, Dec 13 (AFP)—Laos has notified the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) that it wants to join the group in a few years' time, Philippine Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said Friday.

"We received word that the government of Laos has indicated its intention to accede to the treaty of amity," he said. Signing the 1967 agreement formulated in 1967 in Bali, Indonesia, is regarded as a first step toward joining ASEAN.

"Laos has indicated that it would like to allow a couple of years to pass before it formalizes its moves to actually join ASEAN," Manglapus, the current chairman of the ASEAN standing committee, told a news conference.

After signing the friendship treaty, Laos will be invited as an observer to various ASEAN meetings, he added.

ASEAN groups Brunei, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand. The heads of state of these countries are to hold a summit meeting in Singapore next year.

Manglapus also said Vietnam had expressed interest in joining the association as early as 1987 [year as received], and that Cambodia may possibly join after resolving "normalization" problems."

Manglapus said last week after a visit to Rangoon that he was in favor of also bringing Burma into the regional grouping.

Signs Agreement With Japanese Envoy

HK1312031891 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 13 Dec 91 p 16

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Raul Manglapus and Japanese envoy Toshio Goto yesterday exchanged notes on $14.5 million worth of Japanese grants to benefit rural hospitals and agricultural institute training.

"The first project (worth $7.3 million) involves the improvement of the level of provincial health services in the country. Known as the Project for Upgrading Medical Equipment of Provincial Hospitals, the project seeks to upgrade the medical equipment of provincial hospitals in Region 1 to 12. Just as the first phase, which was committed in 1988, the hospitals included in this second phase of the project will stand to benefit enormously in terms of access to medical equipment and to elevate the quality of medical care and services in the rural areas," Mr. Goto said.

"The second project (covered by a $7.2-million grant) is one of the Japanese Government's response in furthering the Philippine Government's agricultural development. Concretely, this project deals with the strengthening of the Agricultural Training Institute (ATI). This involves providing all centers under ATI with necessary equipment and facilities for training.

This will particularly aim at improving the technical skills of agricultural extension workers which will in the long run increase farmers' productivity and upgrade the rural economy. Aside from the farmers who comprise the bulk of the country's population, the out-of-school rural youth will also benefit from this project and transform them into productive members of society," the envoy said.

Views Overseas Japanese Troops

HK1312031991 Quezon City MALAYA in English 13 Dec 91 p 2

[By Ellen Tordesillas]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Raul S. Manglapus yesterday said he has nothing against the plan of the Japanese government to send a contigent to Cambodia as part of the United Nations peacekeeping force.

"I think the participation in a peacekeeping force that is not an offensive force, meaning in the military sense, does not necessarily indicate military resurgence on the part of anyone," Manglapus said.

With the memory of World War II still in their mind, the United States, South Korea and other countries in Southeast Asia are concerned with the possibility of Japan increasing its military influence in the region, considering its awesome economic power.

Manglapus declined to make any public comment on the resolution being deliberated by the Japanese Diet on the sending of Japanese Self Defense Forces to Cambodia.

Japanese Ambassador Toshio Goto, when asked about the participation of the Japanese Self Defense Forces in the Cambodia peacekeeping force, said "That's a silly and irrelevant question."

The DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] has designated Ambassador to Thailand Josue Villa as nonresident ambassador to Cambodia.

Position on Japanese Troops Assailed

HK1312044191 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 13 Dec 91 p 10

[Editorial: "An Unmitigated Disaster"]

[Text] Fresh from his visit to beautiful Myanmar [Burma]—where he held private discussions with that country's despotic leaders—Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus has found yet another role to play. Speaking to newsmen this week, the good secretary took the cudgels for Japan, defending a bill in the Japanese Diet that will allow the economic powerhouse to deploy its Self Defense Forces (SDF) beyond its shores for peacekeeping purposes.

"I think participation in a peacekeeping force does not necessarily indicate military resurgence on the part of anyone," Secretary Manglapus said, dismissing concerns among other Asian nations that well remember the Japanese on-slaught in World War II. "A peacekeeping force is essentially a peaceful endeavor."

Mr. Manglapus seems so impressed by labels that someone should remind him of the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" imposed by Imperial Japan during the last war. We doubt, however, if this would make much of a difference.

Strangely enough, the Japanese public seems more sensitive to this issue than Mr. Manglapus. In fact, the Japanese government and ruling party officials have given up on passing the controversial troop-dispatch bill this year in the face of stiff opposition. The bill's postponement, if we are to believe wire reports from Tokyo, is an embarrassment for the ruling Liberal Democratic Party as well as for Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who promised after taking office last month to get it passed quickly. Polls have indicated, too, that a majority of Japanese still oppose the dispatch of troops abroad.

But all this appears to be of no consequence to the good secretary, who earlier this year campaigned long and hard for Washington in a futile attempt to win approval of an odious, one-sided bases treaty that nobody but the Americans wanted.

The unfortunate reality is that Mr. Manglapus's "diplomacy" has been an unmitigated disaster and a national embarassment. Even as he was headed to Myanmar—better known as Burma—earlier this month to practice what he called an "Asian approach" to diplomacy, human rights groups released 1,500 names of political detainees in that country, adding that the list was far from complete. A day later, the Burmese military government was excoriated by a U.S.-based doctors' group for shooting and killing health workers who were trying to treat wounded demonstrators. And, as a parting insult, Myanmar authorities arrested scores of protesting students and closed down Rangoon University as Mr. Manglapus completed his mission.

Perhaps Mr. Manglapus has grown accustomed to failure. He certainly seems to be lying back and enjoying it.

Abadia Dismisses Reported No Election Campaign

HK1312021491 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in Tagalog 0100 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] General Lisandro Abadia, the Armed Forces chief of staff, has dismissed spreading reports that an Operation Noel [no elections] will be launched. Abadia said the military will not allow the occurrence of irregularities in the coming elections, ensuring that the elections would proceed. Abadia also confirmed he has been receiving reports that Operation Noel is allegedly hatched by the so-called President Aquino's Yellow Army. Abadia clarified that these are just reports and there is no sufficient evidence to prove this.

102 Barangays Identified as Election Hot Spots

HK1312125091 Manila DIYARYO FILIPINO in Tagalog 13 Dec 91 p 10

[By Joy Franklin Gonzales]

[Text] Camp Aquino, Tarlac—An estimated 102 barangays in seven provinces were identified as election hot spots by the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) due to increased New People's Army [NPA] activities in the area.

The military is allegedly strengthening its forces in the provinces of Pangasinan, Aurora, Nueva Ecija, Nueva Vizcaya, and Ilocos Sur because of black [as published] propaganda against the government, collection of taxes, terrorism, and the liquidation local area officials.

According to Lieutenant Colonel Alfred De La Cruz, Nolcom civil military operation officer, the communists are gaining strength in the provinces of Benguet and Mountain Province where most of the encounters between government troops and communist rebels occur.

De La Cruz said that Philippine National Police has also deployed its men in support of operations against the terrorists.

Prior to this, the NPA has sent word that they intend to liquidate some candidates running in the 1992 elections, especially those running for president.

Commission Probes Alleged Cheating in LDP Vote

HK1312023191 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] The Commission on Elections [Comelec] has formally begun an investigation into the reported widespread cheating in the Struggle of Filipino Democrats [LDP] provincial convention held 30 November.

In an en banc resolution signed by Comelec Chairman Christian Monsod and five commissioners, the poll body instructed House Speaker Ramon Mitra Jr. and former Defense Secretary Fidel V. Ramos to prove their accusations of cheating, such as vote buying and other anomalies, in the recently concluded LDP convention in various provinces. Monsod said that if both political camps fail to present evidence regarding the accusations, they should keep their mouths shut. Monsod stressed it is his obligation to enforce the election law, which is why the poll body has to act and investigate their allegations.

Muslim Rebel Leader Surrenders in Cotabato

HK1312032991 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 13 Dec 91 p 8

[Text] General Santos City—A top rebel leader in South Cotabato and Sultan Kudarat, who plans to run for town mayor, surrendered here yesterday to Gen. Lisandro C. Abadia. AFP [Armed Forces of the Philippines] chief of staff.

Hadi Ayub Mindog, also "Commander Kagi Ayug," vice chairman for military affairs of the South Cotabato revolutionary committee of the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), and 13 of his followers yielded three Armalites, two M14 rifles, three Garand rifles, and grenade launchers.

Mindog said at the headquarters of the 601st Army Brigade under Col. Esrael Villareal in Malandad, Malungon, South Cotabato, he plans to run for mayor of Palimbang, Sultan Kudarat.

Muslim Rebels Kill 16 in Basilan Province

HK1312032291 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 13 Dec 91 p 27

[By Rebecca Feliciano]

[Text] Zamboanga City—Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) Lost Command rebels stepped up their Yuletide offensive killing 16 people in a series of ambuscades [ambushes] since Tuesday until late yesterday, police said.

Reports from the Philippine National Police in Basilan province said that two Marine troopers were killed while two others were wounded when heavily armed Lost Command rebels ambushed Tuesday morning their patrol group near a public market at Barangay Tumahubong, Tipo-Tipo.

One slain trooper was identified as Sgt. Antonio Mijares.

At about 11:30 Wednesday morning, a private truck owned by a Muslim from Isabela, Basilan was ambushed by the rebels killing six passengers on the spot.

At about 5 p.m. Wednesday afternoon, a Toyota Cruiser of Mangal Development Corp., a rubber plantation was blasted when it drove over a landmine planted by the rebels. Six guards of the company, one radio operator and the driver were killed on the spot. Only the radio operator and driver were identified as Roger Dainda and Elmer Castillo.

The rebels were reportedly trying to extract protection money from the rubber company.

Combined military and police teams were set up in the area to hunt down the rebels.

Thailand

Agricultural Ministry Drops Controversial Bill

BK1312014591 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Dec 91 p B1

[Excerpts] After ten months of tough scrutiny and heated debate, Agriculture Minister Anat Aphaphirom yesterday announced that he will not re-submit the National Agricultural Council bill to the Cabinet, effectively terminating plans to establish the council.

The announcement caught many by surprise, given the ministry's determination to push the bill through the Economic Screening Policy Committee since Anat revived the idea in March this year.

Anat said he would let the next government decide on the future of the council, which has been criticized harshly along with its creators from the very beginning.

"I have made the decision, for this government will be in power for just another few months. There is not sufficient time to consider the issue, which has caused so much disagreement among the parties concerned," Anat said.

The Agriculture Minister was apparently discouraged by other ministers' lack of support and criticism from university lecturers and economists who blasted the proposal, claiming it promoted agribusiness at the expense of farmers and granted the bureaucrat-dominated council excessive power. [passage omitted]

PM's Office Minister Phaichit Uathawikun was reportedly behind the opposition. The minister is believed to have come out strongly against the governance of the council through exclusive legislation.

He suggested that a Prime Minister's Office regulation would be adequate. If that was the case, the council would be overseen by one of the PM's Office ministers. [passage omitted]

Suchinda on Impartial Election Watchdog Commission

BK1312024691 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 December 91 p 3

[Text] Army Commander-in-Chief Suchinda Khraprayun said yesterday the proposal to set up an impartial watchdog committee for the next general election depends on the Government, and the Interior Ministry in particular.

The National Peacekeeping Council [NPKC] will not get involved in the matter because it does not know whether it will be able to appoint a truly neutral body, Gen Suchinda said laughingly.

The Army chief said it is the duty of the Interior Ministry to see to it that the elections are held in all fairness.

However, the NPKC will also render help to oversee them, said Gen Suchinda.

Minister on Polls Watchdog, Election Schedule

BK1312023691 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Dec 91 p 3

[Text] The election watchdog commission proposed by Prime Minister Anan Panyarachun is not a paper tiger but a big tiger "which roars loudly", Interior Minister Itsaraphong Nunphakdi said yesterday.

The minister said the commission would get as much authority as the Prime Minister saw fit.

Earlier, the Interior Ministry was against equipping the commission with powers to deal with election fraud. It wanted the commission to only observe the election.

Asked if the commission will be capable of dealing with election fraud, Gen Itsaraphong said the Interior Ministry and the commission would try their best to deal with the problem.

The minister said he is yet to receive a request from Bangkok Governor Chamlong Simuang expressing his reservations about serving as election director of Bangkok.

Speaking at a meeting of all department chiefs and heads of state enterprises under the Interior Ministry, Gen Itsaraphong said it is the ministry's responsibility to make sure that all eligible voters participate.

Sources said Gen Itsaraphong told the meeting of preparations for the election, saying that the ministry is ready to hold the election on one of three days: March 8, 15 or 29.

He told the meeting of Prime Minister Anan's concern after receiving a petition that the election should be held after March when the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan is over.

However, deputy permanent secretary for Interior Ari Wong-araya, who is a Muslim, and Land Department chief Phan Chantharapan, who had been governor in many southern provinces, said there should be no problem.

Parties To Have TV Air Time; Censorship Raised

BK1312022291 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 13 Dec 91 p 3

[Text] Political parties participating in the forthcoming general election will be allowed to air their policies on all five state-run television stations free of charge, Prime Minister's Office Minister Michai Wirawaithaya said yesterday.

Speaking after a meeting of the Broadcasting Directing Board (BDB), Mr Michai said that each party would be given three opportunities to broadcast their policy speech during the campaign period leading up to the election.

All political parties will be permitted to make their first broadcast at the beginning of the campaign period, the second at the half-way point and the third shortly before election day.

To ensure fairness, the leaders of the various parties contesting the election will be invited to tape their policy speech on the same day at the same television station.

The taped programmes will then be aired on all television stations during prime time from 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.

However, every programme will be subject to BDB censorship before being broadcast to make sure that it does not offend anybody.

The BDB will order all television stations not to sell air time to any party during the campaign so as to ensure fairness, Mr Michai said.

—In other developments, Mr Michai said from January 1, the BDB would authorise each television station to censor its own programmes.

Each station will have to set up its own censorship committee which may comprise of school teachers, university lecturers, senior persons in various fields such as religious, cultural and medical affairs.

The committee will censor every programme and recommend if there should be any improvement and what time it should be aired by basing it on a previous BDB resolution to divide programmes into three categories—those for general audience, those requiring parental guidance and those strictly for adults.

Viewers who are not satisfied with the station's censorship can petition the BDB's subcommittee.

The subcommittee, after an investigation, can subsequently recommend that the BDB take appropriate action against the station, Mr Michai said.

Muanchon's Chaloem 'May End' Political Exile

BK1312020791 Bangkok THE NATION in English 13 Dec 91 p A3

[Excerpt] Former Muanchon Party leader Chaloem Yubamrung may end his political exile in Denmark and return to Thailand by the end of this month to fight a summary corruption ruling.

In a telephone interview with THE NATION from Denmark yesterday, Chaloem said the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) had agreed in principle to allow him to return to Bangkok.

Chaloem said he was waiting for official confirmation from the UNHCR on the revocation of his refugee status and could expect to arrive in Thailand at any time between Dec 24-27.

Chaloem said he believed that the promulgation of the new Constitution had led to the UNHCR's decision to allow him to end his political exile.

"The UNHCR wanted to see democracy restored first before allowing me to go home," Chaloem said.

The former Cabinet minister said he would appeal to the courts against the military-installed investigators' decision to have more than Bt [bhat] 32 million of his assets seized for alleged corruption. [passage omitted]

Thai-Malaysia Regional Border Committee Meets

BK1212144791 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Malaysia hosted the meeting of the Thai-Malaysian Regional Border Committee in Penang during 10-12 December. Chitphan Wongthai makes the following report:

The 58th meeting of the Thai-Malaysian regional border committee was hosted by the Malaysian government in Penang. The meeting proceeded in a warm and cordial atmosphere. Lieutenant General Datuk Mohan, commander of the Malaysian First Infantry Division, and Thai Fourth Army Region Commander Lieutenant General Kitti Rattanachaya co-chaired the meeting.

The meeting acknowledged the outcome of joint operations in the border area against terrorism by Communist Party of Malaya [CPM] members and terrorist bandits, particularly on the use of units to defuse and detonate 214 CPM landmines. Lt. Gen. Kitti said the combined Thai-Malaysian operations have successfully stopped armed CPM activities and that Thai officials will soon meet with the CPM leaders.

The meeting also discussed joint development activities by the military units of the two countries. The meeting of the General Border Committee in Bangkok will discuss the first ever plan on joint military exercise over land between Thai and Malaysian troops. The two countries already hold regular joint naval and air exercises.

Lt. Gen. Mohan said the two countries have engaged in various forms of economic cooperation, noting that the completion of the ferry crossing between Tak Bai District, Narathiwat Province and Binta Tubo of Malaysia reflects the friendliness and sincere spirit of bilateral cooperation.

The success of the joint operations to date has led the regional border committees of each country to agree to continue such cooperation further for both countries' mutual interest.

Trade, Investment Volume With Hungary Increases

BK1312111691 Bangkok Voice of Free Asia in Thai 1030 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Trade and investment between Thailand and Hungary strengthened in the first nine months of 1991. During the period, Hungary imported $12.9 million worth of Thai goods, while Thailand imported $26.2 million of Hungarian products. It is anticipated that Hungary will import more Thai products to meet the trend of increased Hungarian consumer demand.

The Thai trade counselor in Budapest said Thai imports included clothes, shoes, cotton fabric, toys, canned food, bicycles and parts, radio sets, computers, and artificial flowers. Thailand imported Hungarian fertilizer, chemical products, steel, light bulbs, medicine, and machinery.

Vietnam

VNA Reports U.S. MIA Search Results

BK1312075691 Hanoi VNA in English 0600 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 13—A joint Vietnamese-American excavation team has found bone fragments where Colonel John L. Robertson's F-4 fighter-bomber crashed on September 16, 1966, announced a Vietnamese official to Vietnamese and foreign correspondents coming to the site last week.

Ho Xuan Dich, director of the Vietnam Office for Missing Personnel said analyses at the identification laboratory in Hawaii, the United States, would be needed to determine if the finds—some bone fragments and teeth—really belong to Robertson whose death has been made a matter of doubt by the appearance in the United States last July of a photograph showing three men, one of them described as the pilot in question.

Garnett Bell, head of the US POW/MIA office in Hanoi said the finds, discovered at Chi Linh District, Hai Hung Province, 60 km northeast of Hanoi, were insignificant. "Up to this point we have received very little evidence: small pieces of wreckage and some small pieces of biological levels".

But inhabitants of Cong Hoa Village, Chi Linh, had no doubts about the death of the pilot. The flaming aircraft, shot down by a MiG jet fighter in the afternoon of September 16, 1966, crashed in the village, injuring several creche children and destroying a number of houses. Nguyen Van Cau, owner of the house directly hit by the downed aircraft, said he saw bits of flesh everywhere, even among bamboo groves.

Mr. Cau, now pushing 80, said he was too dazed to find out then how the other pilot was captured. Later he heard that the surviving American, Robertson's weapon officer, was caught as he landed in a village 16 km from the crash site.

The weapon officer, Hubert F. Buchanan, was returned to the United States in 1973.

Prior to the arrival of the joint excavation team, the crash site had been gone over by local militiamen who found pieces of the aircraft wreckage, charred personal effects and bone frangments. The bone fragments were returned to the United States on April 10, 1990 and proved to be animal bones.

The recent joint excavation, which started on November 17 and ended on December 12, was a result of a meeting between Vietnamese and American MIA experts held in March 1991.

Also part of the joint search, 15th since 1988, a seven-member US team last Friday went to Lang Son, chief town of the province of the same name near the Sino-Vietnamese border, to interview witnesses about two cases in discrepancy.

The first, case 0213 in the US record, is based on the information gathered during the joint investigation conducted in September 1988. Examination of records and interviews of witnesses at that time did not lead to any crash in Luc Ngan District as supposed in US records. In June 1991, a unilateral investigation by Vietnam located the site of a crash in Cao Loc District, 70 km to the north.

The first witness, Mr. To Cuong Minh, 68, former secretary of the local party organisation, said he saw the surviving American a few minutes after he was captured and had to order the militia to protect the captive from possible attacks by the inhabitants. He also said he saw the body of the dead about 50 metres from the burning fuselage.

Mr. Minh then told the militia to get a coffin and a shroud for the pilot. He also had incense burned during the burial.

However, the 68-year-old man could not be of help much when it came to locating the burial site, and the only other man he knew who had participated in the burial had been dead for a long time.

Moreover, the terrain has changed much since.

Council on Joint Soviet Oil Enterprise Meets

BK1312080491 Hanoi VNA in English 0617 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 13—The Council of Vietsovpetro, a joint venture oil enterprise between Vietnam and the Soviet Union, has met to review its work in 1991 and adopted a plan to produce 4.8 million tons of crude oil in 1992, an increase of 1.3 million tons over 1991.

Also in this 13th session, the council promoted Ngo Thuong San, deputy director of Vietsovpetro, to director general. He is the who holds the post of director general of the joint enterprise. [sentence as received]

Foreign Investors Meet in Northern Vietnam

BK1212155591 Hanoi VNA in English 1403 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA December 12—A conference of foreign investors in northern Vietnam was opened here this morning by the Vietnam State Commission for Investment and Cooperation with foreign countries.

The meeting brings together more than 70 foreign businessmen who have invested in projects located in the provinces from Quang Tri northward.

Also present were representatives of a number of investors in offshore oil and gas development.

Mr. Preben Hjerlund, representative of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) also attended.

Netherlands Cancels Country's 1991 Debt

BK1212160291 Hanoi VNA in English 1409 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec 12.—The Dutch Government has decided to cancel Vietnam's debt due in 1991 worth 2.6 million guilders (some 1.4 million US dollars) including interest and part of the loan principal.

This decision, together with Holland's recent decision to grant Vietnam non-refunded aid worth 7 million USd for purchasing fertilizer for agricultural production in 1991, shows the Dutch Government and people's goodwill to help the Vietnamese people in overcoming difficulties and developing the economy.

National Assembly Session Continues 13 Dec

Morning Session Reported

BK1312073091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] According to a Voice of Vietnam correspondent, this morning the National Assembly continued to work in the conference hall under the direction of National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu.

The National Assembly debated on the draft law on Vietnam's civil aviation, focusing on the issues related to state control over civil aviation, foreign investment in civil aviation, shared use of air terminals by military and civilian sectors, and protection and insurance for civil aviation.

Earlier, Tran Danh Luu, minister of communications, transportation, and post and telegraph, read a statement clarifying a number of points in the draft law on Vietnam's civil aviation. More than 27 deputies took turns expressing their views.

The National Assembly voted 338/403 in favor of the various provisions of the draft law under which the Council of Ministers shall exert uniform management over civil aviation whereas the Ministry of Communications, Transportation, and Post and Telegraph shall carry out a specialized state managerial function.

The National Assembly devoted much time debating on issues related to a separation between the state managerial function and business function of Vietnam Airlines, the role of state agencies in overseeing the activities of Vietnam Airlines, improving Vietnam's civil aviation operations, and uniform air control by airport officials.

In conclusion, the National Assembly unanimously agreed to entrust the draft law compiling committee with the task of reviewing a number of provisions that the National Assembly deemed necessary to amend, adding the clause "the authorities in charge of managing and coordinating airport operations" to the term "authorities," providing a uniform definition of regulations promoting foreign investment in Vietnam's civil aviation, removing the clause concerning the shared use of air terminals by military and civilian sectors, and so forth.

This afternoon, the National Assembly will continue its session in the conference hall to debate on the draft law on import-export taxes.

Afternoon Session Reported

BK1312122091 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 13 Dec 91

[Text] This afternoon, National Assembly deputies debated on the draft law on import-export taxes at the conference hall under the direction of National Assembly Vice Chairman Phung Van Tuu.

The 18 views expressed by the deputies were focused on the need to amend and pass these draft laws in this session of the National Assembly; the right of the National Assembly, the Council of State, and the Council of Ministers to decide on the tariff on banks and specific groups and categories of commodities; import-export policies, which should be manifested in the tariff, tax rates, and views contributed by import and export establishments before promulgation; and cases of tax exemption and the time for tax payment.

At this afternoon's session, the National Assembly voted in favor of the draft laws on import-export taxes after making an amendment in accordance with the views contributed by the deputies.

Children's National Summit Closes 12 Dec

BK1212155691 Hanoi VNA in English 1405 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec.12—The national summit for children closed here today after two days' sitting.

The meeting adopted a 10-point statement, including the following commitments:

—to reduce the mortality rate among the under-five-year-olds from 81 per thousand this year to 55 per thousand in the year 2000, and that of the under-one-year-olds from 46 per thousand this year to less than 30 per thousand in 2000.

—to reduce the serious and medium malnutrituon rates among the under-five-year-olds from 51 per thousand at present to 40 per thousand in 1995, and to less than 30 per thousand in 2000. To do away with very serious malnutrition by the year 2000.

—to reduce by half in 2000 the mortality rate of 1.1 per thousand this year among women related to pregnancy and childbirth.

Addressing the summit, Party General Secretary Do Muoi expressed his belief that with the joint efforts of the party, the state and the entire people of Vietnam and with effective assistance from UNICEF and other international organizations the national programme of action for children would be successful.

Press Conference Addresses Summit

BK1212154591 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 9 Dec 91

[Text] Yesterday afternoon in Hanoi, the Vietnam Committee for Protection and Care for Children held a press conference on the national summit for Vietnamese children.

Attending the press conference were Comrade Nguyen Khanh, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Vietnam Committee for Protection and Care for Children; delegates from various organs and the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Education and Training, and the Ministry of Finance; and representatives of various news and press agencies at the central level and in Hanoi. Also present were representatives from various international organizations, UNICEF, the United Nations Development Program, and the social organization of Sweden.

Comrade Tran Thi Thanh Thanh, vice president of the Committee for Protection and Care for Children, introduced the objectives of the National Summit for Children to be held from 11 to 12 December in Hanoi. Representatives from various organs concerned answered all the questions raised by newsmen about child care and education and the budget for this work.

Radio Views Socioeconomic Situation in 1991

BK1212130891 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 6 Dec 91

[Feature: "Talk of the Week"]

[Text] Bright prospects have been seen in Vietnamese socioeconomic field since early this year. Worthy of note is the progress made in the production of agriculture and some industrial branches and handicrafts.

This year, the oil and gas industry is expected to reach 3 million tons. Main projects at hydropower plants of Hoa Binh, 80 km southwest Hanoi, and Tri An, 60 km northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, have quickly completed the assembly of their turbines. The consumer goods and food processing industries have overcome challenges to reaffirm their leading roles in the national economy.

It is estimated that the total output value of Vietnamese industrial and handifcraft production in 1991 will increase by approximately 15 percent against last year to the highest level since 1986, when the national economy shifted from state subsidies to market economy. Worthy of mention is that thanks to the development of production, tens thousands of working people have found more employment to maintain themselves and their families while producing more social products. The textile and garment industry in Vietnam employs the greatest labor force.

In the past, under the protocol signed between Vietnam and the Soviet Union on products exchange, cotton was transported regularly from the Soviet Union to Vietnam. The Vietnamese workers processed the cotton into different kinds of cloth designed to customers' orders, and their garment products, including shirts, kimonos, and jackets were much sought after in foreign markets.

Since early this year, business accounting has been applied to the exchange relations between Vietnam and the Soviet Union and payment has been in dollars. Vietnamese textile mills were short of hard currency to buy cotton. As a result, early this year, due to the shortage of cotton, many textile mills were threatened with closing down. Then, thanks to mutual help of import-export companies, the textile mills overcame these difficulties.

With that example, we would like to make you understand and sympathize with our country with its less developed economy. The shortage of some materials may affect the productive forces of the whole industrial branch and the lives of tens of thousands of people.

Having overcome many trials since the beginning of this year, industrial branches in Vietnam will certainly fulfill the 1991 state plan—a precondition for more successes in the coming year.

Le Quang Do Receives Outgoing Cuban Ambassador

BK1212155991 Hanoi VNA in English 1405 GMT 12 Dec 91

[Text] Hanoi VNA Dec. 12—Chairman of the National Assembly Le Quang Dao today received Cuban Ambassador to Vietnam Armando Saucedo Yero who paid him a farewell visit before concluding his term of office in Vietnam.

Speaking about the achievements recorded by the Cuban people in defending their socialist country, the Cuban ambassador underlined their determination to overcome all difficulties and persistently advance towards socialism.

For his part, Chairman Le Quang Dao reiterated the Vietnamese people's solidarity with Cuba and their determination to continue mutual support and assistance with the Cuban people to successfully build socialism in each country.

Do Muoi's Second Plenum Address, Last Part

BK1112144991 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Dec 91

["Last Part" of Party General Secretary Do Muoi's address at the Second Plenum of the Seventh Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee held in Hanoi from 25 November-4 December—read by announcer]

[Text] The leadership of a Communist Party over a socialist country is an historical inevitability. This kind of leadership reflects an extremely important thesis of Marxism-Leninism and Ho Chi Minh's thoughts, and covers efforts to provide the entire revolutionary process with various central tasks and key points for every stage in keeping with those requirements arising from the actual situation.

Over the past 60 years since its founding, our party has assumed its role as leader of the Vietnamese Revolution. It has succeeded in motivating the strength of the entire people in the liberation war for independence, freedom, and national unification. Today, in furthering this glorious revolutionary undertaking, our party should maintain its leading role in motivating the people nationwide to build socialism successfully. This is a very important, heavy, complex, and difficult, yet very glorious, task.

With a full awareness of its duty, our party should strive to bring itself up to its historic mandate and to the demands of the revolution and the people. Renovating the party leadership is precisely aimed at meeting these demands.

Renovating the party leadership over the state is one of the most important conditions for improving the state apparatus. The aim behind this is to improve the quality and the effectiveness of the party's leadership, and at the same time to increase the effectiveness of the state's operational management, ensure better respect for the law, and promote further development of the people's right to mastery.

The party is the leader of the political system and it functions according to the Constitution and the law. The party is to rule over the state and not to act according to the state's orders. Therefore, what is most important is that we should be clearly aware of the functions and duties in the relations of party and state, and satisfactorily resolve them. We should strive to ensure that both the party and the state can act according to their functions and can fully develop their roles.

Documents of the Seventh National Party Congress pointed out general concepts and principles for this issue. Here I would like to add some more points:

1. In leadership, the state should institutionalize the party's lines. Most importantly, it is necessary to ensure the observance of legislative and statutory procedures; prepare state plans and policies in such a way as to correctly reflect the party's ideological concepts, and ensure the effective implementation of the party's lines and policies.

For many echelons, sectors, and people, complying with various policies, laws, and plans of the state amounts to implementing the party lines.

As for those tasks associated with the functions, duty, and rights of the National Assembly and the government, the party should exercise its leading role by specifying its concepts, orientations, and principles for solving major problems. It should provide prestigious guidance for solving certain specific, important problems. However, it should refrain from making decisions on behalf of state organs.

In this spirit, the party Central Committee and the Political Bureau should provide the main orientations for political and socioeconomic activities and should determine fundamental tasks and objectives, major changes in development plans, and the main approaches for work.

Based on these main principles, objectives, and orientations, the National Assembly and the government should institutionalize various legal documents under various forms and should decide on matters regarding planning, policies, and organizational and operational measures in accordance with their functions and duties.

Regarding national defense, security, and foreign relations, the party Central Committee and the Political Bureau should work out strategic policies and lines and exceptionally important matters related to the destiny of the state, such as war and peace, national borders and territory, and strategic disposition. The government should present these matters to the National Assembly so it can make decisions from a state perspective.

As for those matters such as building force, building national defense industry, the implementation of military service, the army rear policy, and public order and safety, the government should direct the ministries of national defense, interior, and foreign affairs, as well as other relevant sectors, to prepare their own plans for these activities and present them to the National Assembly for consideration and decision.

In law-building work, the party Central Committee and the Political Bureau should point out their ideological viewpoints and their guiding principles regarding important and complex issues, as well as their orientations and policies for judicial activities, so responsible state organs can prepare legal documents and submit them to the National Assembly for consideration, decisions, and promulgation.

Party organizations in various state organs should take the initiative in preparing activity plans and recommending various policies and lines with the party Central Committee.

The party Central Committee and the Political Bureau should listen to the views of National Assembly deputies, cabinet members, and mass organizations in order to supplement and perfect their policies and lines.

Acting as advisory organs for relevant party committees, various departments of the party are dutybound to prepare study guidelines and monitor and contribute their views to various plans of state organs. They should present their views on these plans so the Political Bureau and the Secretariat can discuss and make decisions.

In localities, party committes are dutybound to study and firmly grasp the party lines and policies, as well as decisions of the state, while setting socioeconomic targets and other important tasks on the basis of the real situation in their localities. They should not give direct orders to the local administration or make decisions on issues under the jurisdiction of the local authorities. They must lead the local administration to implement lines and policies of the party, higher state agencies, and echelons of provincial party committees in accordance with the state law.

Regarding activities of the courts and organs of control sectors, party committees should meet periodically to hear reports on the situations in these sectors and provide guidances and orientations so that the state law and regulations are correctly implemented. They should not directly interfere in the activities of these sectors, especially in court trials, and they should refrain from arbitrarily increasing penalties. While conducting a trial, the court should perform its duty in accordance with the law. For cases having a far-reaching political impact involving national defense, security, and foreign affairs domains, or related to cadres under the jurisdiction of party committees, the party committees concerned should provide their views to help the court and the organ of control to perform their tasks and make decisions. It is necessary to resolutely overcome the situation in which some members of party committees interfere in the courts' activities, to the extent of making gross decisions on court trials and penalties. We must stop practices such as protection, impunity, and other negative phenomena that diminish the power of the law and create indignation among the people.

2. Regarding supervision of building the state apparatus and forging state cadres. The party provides viewpoints, principles, and orientations for guiding the organization of the state apparatus, and examines and contributes ideas to the state's proposals, which are aimed at helping the latter make decisions.

Concerning cadre-related tasks, party committees are to set standard qualifications and formulate policies, while the state institutionalizes them into law and regulations. On this basis, party and state functional agencies will select and make proposals on the assignment of key cadres to party committees for consideration and submission to authorized state agencies, who will make official appointments. It is necessary to overcome the situation in which party committees and organizations are doing all the civic work of the state apparatus. One of the most important measures to ensure the efficacy of state management and enhance the party leadership over the state is to assign key cadres with prestige and management capability to high positions in the state apparatus. For instance, secretaries and deputy secretaries of party committees may run for election to the post of people's council chairmen. Likewise, some competent staff cadres may run for elections to become deputies of the National Assembly or councillors of the people's councils. They may then join committees of the National Assembly and the people's councils to coordinate tasks, formulate projects, and supervise implementation.

3. Enhance the role and responsibility of party organizations and party members working in state agencies.

The party leadership over the state functions through party organizations and party members working in state agencies. The party does not directly give orders to state agencies. Through these party organizations and party members, the party conveys its concepts, ideas, and lines to activities of the state apparatus, while listening to viewpoints from other party members in the state apparatus during the process of institutionalizing the party lines into state laws and policies. It is necessary to organize and mobilize party members in the state apparatus to implement the party lines and policies. As a result, we must enhance the quality of these party members. All party members working for the state apparatus, especially those who hold key positions, must consistently study and enhance their political background and specialized skills, while developing the vanguard and exemplary role, implementing party resolutions, observing party disciplines, abiding by the state law, and bringing into play their political background and ethics at state agencies. It is necessary to make all party members clearly understand that implementing the state laws and policies constitutes the implementation of the party lines and policies. In fact, the proportion of party members in the National Assembly and echelons of people's councils is quite high, but the party's voice at these institutions is scattered, to the extent that some party members have even spoken against a party resolution. It is necessary to resolutely overcome this abnormal situation.

We must reorganize and enhance activities of the party, youth union, and party affairs committees at state agencies in accordance with the stipulations of the party statutes. At agencies where there is no party or youth organizations, the party member who heads that agency will carry on the duties of party or youth organizations. He must not neglect the duties of a party member, while refraining from abusing his prestige by imposing his ideas on that state agency.

We must promptly study the organization of the party apparatus in a rational way and clearly determine the function of various organs in the party apparatus and on this basis arrange the organizations and cadres in the direction of streamlining them practically and effectively. Basic party organizations in the state agencies are responsible for educating and administering well party members including those who hold key leading positions. Attention should be paid to controlling compliance with the party lines, policies, and statutes by party members to ensure that they can uphold their pioneer and exemplary characters, firmly preserve the viewpoints and lines of the party in the debate to institutionalize the party policies, and observe party discipline.

Basic party organizations must perform well their task of mobilizing the masses to participate in formulating positions and policies.

4. In controlling and supervising the operations of the state machinery, the party will focus mainly on examining the political viewpoints and orientations, ensure correct implementation of the party lines, and firmly maintain the nature of a socialist state. The party will not duplicate the control, inspection, and supervision tasks of the state. The party's control task is carried out mainly through its members and organizations. At the same time, the party must motivate mass organizations to exercise their supervision and control tasks and, on this basis, to promptly detect problems and petition remedial solutions to the state or focus on providing guidance for the major tasks and draw on experiences to supplement and perfect the party lines.

To sum up, renovating party leadership is not at all slackening nor lowering the party's leadership role. It is mainly aimed at strengthening party leadership in a more effective way to ensure that the state operates in the right direction, to enhance the management effectiveness and to promote vigorously the people's role of mastery through the state.

5. To effectively renovate party leadership over the state, the decisive question is that our party must renovate and improve itself, and enhance its militancy and leadership. The party can exercise well its leadership over the state only when it possesses sufficient ability and knowledge about the legal organization and operation of the state machinery. The party must build a contingent of competent and good cadres well versed in the state tasks.

Reforming the state machinery is both a fundamental long-term task to be carried out and an urgent demand to be fufilled soon and properly. As a result, on the basis of general objectives, it is necessary to define specific objectives for each step, primarily for the 1992 and 1993 years.

Leadership over the amendment of the Constitution must be considered a central task. The wisdom of all party members and people should be concentrated on studying, debating, and sharing views. Close leadership over mass media must be exercised in the course of soliciting contributions to the draft amended Constitution.

On the strength of the amended Constitution, we will promulgate laws on modifying structures, organizations and operational mechanisms; establish plans and procedures for resolving problems; implement them step by step and ensure the uniformity of each step, and avoid spreading work too widely.

Reforming the state machinery will cause an impact on all domains of social life. As a result, to firmly preserve political stability, we should carry out reform in a careful and steady manner by surveying, researching and determining projects; formulating necessary rules and regulations; experimenting on those issues to be tested; and preliminarily reviewing, summarizing and drawing on experiences in order to expand reform progressively.

Bringing the amended Constitution and the policy of reforming a step further the state machinery into everyday life is a complex task which requires not only revolutionary will but also scientific knowledge, dynamism, and practical ability. The party central committee and party organizations at all levels should enhance their leadership, mobilize the strength of the entire political system and all the people to fulfill this task well, and create a new impetus to promote the development of the revolution.